PROGRAM

Theme: Our Library Collections: Their Selection and Use

JUNE 8

11:00 a.m. Registration opens

12:15 p.m. Luncheon Meeting

Welcome to Cape Cod
Mrs. Martha U. White, President, Cape Cod Library Club.

Orientation to the Conference
Mrs. Muriel C. Javelin, Vice President
Massachusetts Library Association

Keynote Address
Mrs. Grace T. Stevenson, Deputy Executive Director,
American Library Association

2:30 p.m. Trouble Spots in Book Selection
Case Study Discussions
(Grouped by interest--Adult, Young Adult, Children, Hospital, College)*

2:30 p.m. Trustee Business Meeting and Case Study
Discussions on State Aid*

4:30 p.m. Viewing Exhibits

6:00 p.m. President's Reception

7:00 p.m. Banquet

Panel Discussion: The Library and Films: Selection? Censorship?
Illustrated with the film "Operation Abolition"
Moderator: Dr. Malcolm S. Knowles, Associate Professor of Adult Education
Boston University
Robert E. Segal, Executive Director, Jewish Community Council
of Metropolitan Boston
Mrs. Grace T. Stevenson, Deputy Executive Director,
American Library Association
(To be announced)

* See Blue Registration Form

AUDIENCE DISCUSSION

JUNE 9

9:00 a.m. M.L.A.--Past, Present, and Future
Lawrence E. Wikander, President, Massachusetts Library Association

10:30 a.m. Hospital Library Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in Exhibits Area

11:30 a.m. Groups Resume Discussion of Case Studies

12:45 p.m. Luncheon Meeting

Group Discussion Members Report
Interviews and Summary by Dr. Malcolm S. Knowles

3:00 p.m. Visit to Cape Cod Libraries:
Hyannis Public Library; Brooks Free Library, Harwich
Yarmouth Library Association, Yarmouth Port (Refreshments will be served)

DISCUSSION LEADERS

Hope B. Brown
Division of Library Extension
Elizabeth Butcher
Brookline Public Library
William H. Diamond, Trustee
Reading Public Library
Ervin J. Gaines
Boston Public Library
Thomas V. Galvin
Simmons College Library
Virginia Haviland
Boston Public Library
Kathleen B. Hegarty
Boston Public Library
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Howard
Veterans Administration Hospital
Brockton
Mrs. Janet Keaney
Horrax Memorial Library
New England Deaconess Hospital
Francis P. Keough
Town Library, Framingham
Mrs. Dorothy P. Ladd
Chenery Library
Boston University
M. Jane Manthorne
Boston Public Library
Rose Moorachian
Boston Public Library
Mrs. Louise Newsom
Brockton Public Library
Irene M. Poirier
Ames Free Library, No. Easton
Mrs. Chester W. Slack, Trustee
Brewster
Mrs. Bridie P. Stotz
Boston Public Library
Marie T. Sullivan
Division of Library Extension
B. Gertrude Wade
Boston Public Library

PROGRAM

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CAPE COD LIBRARY CLUB

SPRING MEETING

for

Administrators
Librarians
working with:

Adults
Young Adults
Children

Hospital Librarians
College and Reference Librarians
Trustees

Thursday and Friday - June 8 and 9, 1961

The Belmont, West Harwich by-the-Sea

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
and
CAPE COD LIBRARY CLUB

Spring Conference

Registration for Case Study Discussion Groups

Please help us to plan this Conference by sending this registration as soon as possible to: Miss Kathleen B. Hegarty, Boston Public Library, Boston 17, Mass.

At the Conference you will have an opportunity to discuss in a small group the case which is of the greatest interest to you. The cases are briefly described below. The complete case will be given to you at the meeting. At the close of the Conference everyone will receive a copy of each case.

Please check your choice below. If you wish, indicate a second choice by the figure 2.

_____ A. When a candidate is interviewed for the position of Librarian of a Public Library, Public Librarian-Trustee relationships in selecting books and in determining book selection policy are re-examined.

_____ B. The T---Public Library is criticized for having propaganda periodicals.

_____ C. The Public Librarian's refusal to remove a book from the shelf involves the trustees, the local government, the press, and the community-at-large.

_____ D. When a parent threatens to burn a book borrowed by her teen-age daughter if it is not removed from the library, Young Adult Book Selection policies are re-examined.

_____ E. The Children's Librarian is disturbed by the problem of how to handle a limited book budget most effectively in order to recognize special interests of individual readers and at the same time respond to school requests for supplementary material.

_____ F. The Librarian of the coordinated libraries at the Morton Memorial Hospital seeks to bring together in the library all the books, journals, and pamphlets which are in various areas throughout the Hospital, and by so doing avoid duplication of material.

_____ G. A book sale of duplicates and unwanted books which the College Library received through alumni gifts creates an unpleasant situation.

_____ H. As a result of a student's complaint about the lack of duplicate titles in the reserve book room, the College Library director looks into the reserve book situation.

_____ I. How the Trustees and Librarian of a small Public Library seek State Aid.

_____ J. How the Trustees and Librarian of a not so small Public Library seek State Aid.

_____ I hope to visit the Cape Cod Libraries and will stop for refreshments at Yarmouth Port.

_____ I cannot visit the Cape Cod Libraries.

NAME _____ LIBRARY _____

Total Conference Registration is 50¢ (for one or more sessions) - payable at the Conference Registration desk.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY
TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP CARD
FOR YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 19 60

William A. Waldron

MRS. CHESTER W. SLACK - BREWSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Effie Brown Slack
TREASURER

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY
TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

Mr. William A. Waldron

is a member for year ending December 31, 1961

William H. Diamond
WILLIAM H. DIAMOND, TREASURER
236 SUMMER AVE.
READING, MASSACHUSETTS

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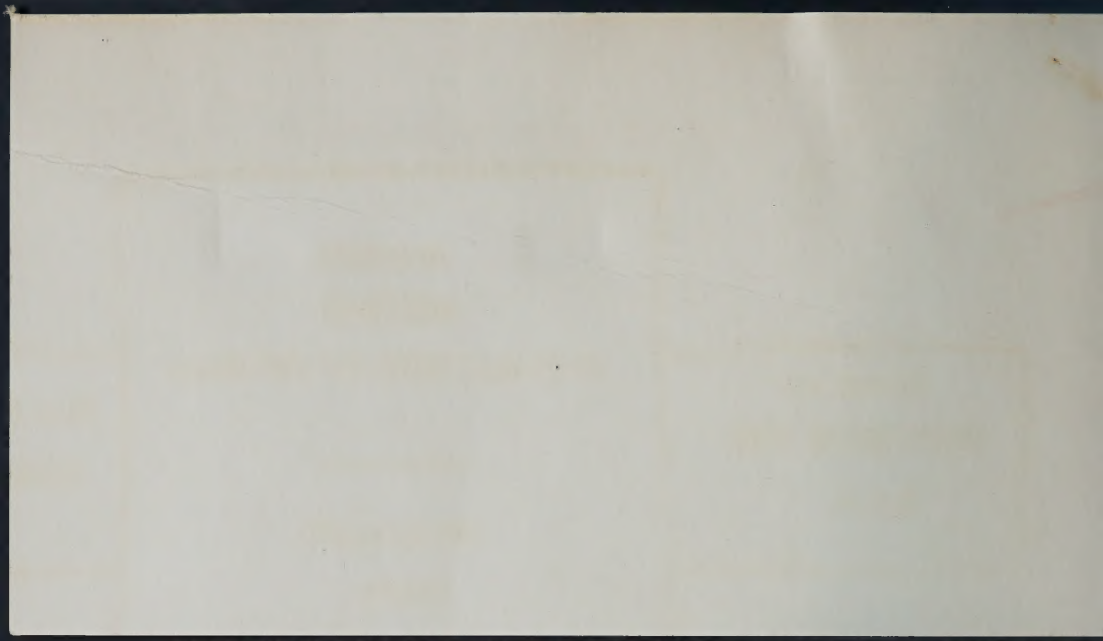
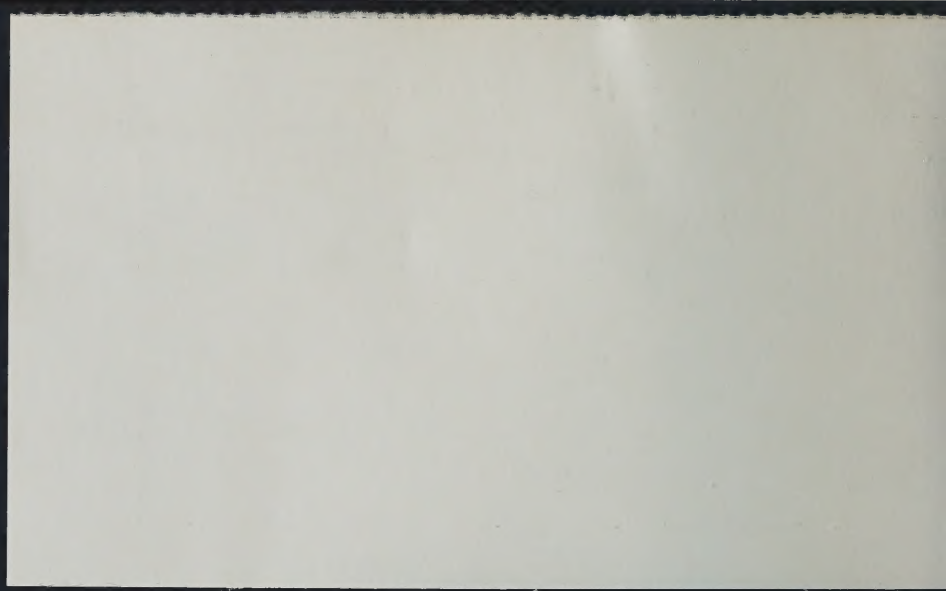
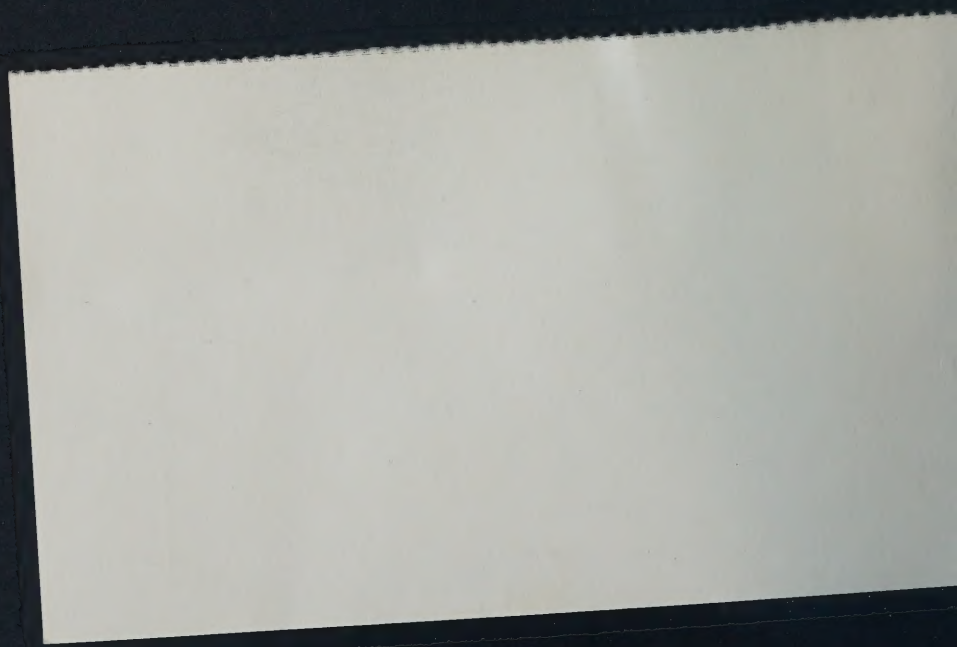






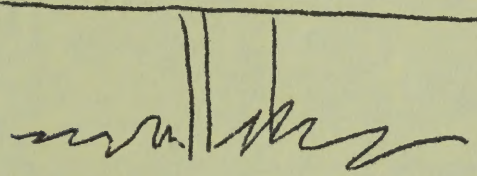
ANNUAL
MEETING
AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 8, 1960
3 p.m.

New Ocean House
SWAMPSCOTT

Massachusetts
Library
Trustees
Association

1961



This is an important meeting and ALL trustees of Massachusetts libraries are urged to attend. At this meeting, we will vote whether to become affiliated with Massachusetts Library Association and hold our winter and spring meetings at the same time. Also whether to hold our annual meeting at Swampscott each year when the New England Library Association meets.

COME FOR ALL DAY -- it is trustees' day with a fine program per enclosed notice. There will also be DISCUSSION of the situation on STATE AID which affects every library in Massachusetts.

Please let us know you are coming...

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COME FOR ALL DAY -- it is trustees' day with a fine program per enclosed notice. There will also be DISCUSSION of the situation on STATE AID which affects every library in Massachusetts.

Please let us know you are coming --

Clinton LA-3-2400

New England Library Association Conference

5-8 OCTOBER 1960

10/4/60 - Collette says to read & attend.

New Ocean House

Swampscott, Massachusetts

THEME: OUR WIDENING WORLD

WEDNESDAY, 5 OCTOBER

9:00 a.m. **National Library Week**—All Day Workshop

4:00 p.m. **Exhibits open**

5:00-6:00 p.m. **Registration**

7:30-9:00 p.m. **Informal Reception**

THURSDAY, 6 OCTOBER

9:00 a.m. **Adult Services Program**
Chairman: Mrs. Muriel Javelin, Deputy Supervisor, Work with Adults, Boston Public Library

10:00-11:00 a.m. **NELA Coffee Hour**

11:00 a.m. Germaine Krettek, Director, Washington Office
ALA Report from Washington

11:15 a.m. **NELA Business Meeting**

2:00 p.m. **Round Table of Children's Librarians**
Caroline M. Hewins, Lecturer

3:00 p.m. **ALA Membership Workshop**

4:00 p.m. **NESLA-NELA Panel**
White House Conference on Children and Youth

6:30 p.m. **Dinner and First General Session**
Speaker: Norman Cousins, Editor, Saturday Review

FRIDAY, 7 OCTOBER

8:00 a.m. **Vermont Library Association Breakfast**

9:00 a.m. **New England Extension Librarians**
Speaker: Professor Elmer R. Smith, Head, Department of Education, Brown University
Topic: Library Developments in Rhode Island
Speaker: John G. Lorenz, Director, Library Services Branch, U. S. Office of Education, Washington
Topic: Library Services Act

9:00 a.m. **College and Research Librarians**
Speaker: Dr. Adelaide Cromwell Hill, Administrative Assistant, African Research and Studies Program, Boston University
Topic: Current Literature of Africa

9:00 a.m. **Film Booth**

10:30 a.m. **New England Children's Book Clinic**

11:00 a.m. **New England Technical Services Librarians**
Panel: Proposed Catalog Code Revision
Chairman: Kay K. Moore, Brown University

FRIDAY, 7 OCTOBER

11:30 a.m. **Mass. Library Association Business Meeting**
President: L. E. Wikander, Forbes Library, Northampton

2:00 p.m. **Round Table—Young Adults NESLA**
Speaker: Commander Paul W. Muehlen, Project Officer, Naval Air Development Station, South Weymouth
Topic: Value of Moral Leadership Workshops

2:30 p.m. **Hospital Libraries Group. Mass. Library Association**

3:30 p.m. **Special Libraries Association, Boston and Connecticut Valley Chapters**

4:00 p.m. **Council of State Teachers Colleges**

4:00 p.m. **Film Booth**

5:00 p.m. Honorable Joseph W. Martin's Reception—McGraw-Hill

5:30 p.m. **Connecticut Library Association**—Social Hour
President: Eileen M. O'Neill, New Haven, Connecticut

6:30 p.m. **Dinner and Second General Session**
Speaker: Mr. Julien Bryan, Executive Director, International Film Foundation, New York City
Topic: South America

SATURDAY, 8 OCTOBER

9:00 a.m. **Scientific Management of Libraries Panel**
Chairman: Walter W. Curley, Business Manager, Providence, R. I. Public Library

9:00 a.m. **New England Law Librarians**

9:00 a.m. **New England School Library Association and Round Table—Young Adults**
Speaker: Julien Bryan
Topic: Russia

11:00 a.m. **Program for Library Trustees**
Speaker: Channing L. Bete, Greenfield, Mass.

11:00 a.m. **NESLA Business Meeting**

12:30 p.m. **Luncheon and Third General Session**
Speaker: Jack Dalton, Dean, School of Library Services, Columbia University

3:00 p.m. **Massachusetts Library Trustees Association Business Meeting**
President: Mrs. Robert N. Wallis, Framingham, Mass.

3:00 p.m. **NESLA—General Session**
Speaker: Louis Shores

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

Fee, $3.00 for entire conference; $1.00 for each day. Check: Thursday_____ Friday_____ Saturday_____

NAME_____ LIBRARY_____
(Print last name first)

CITY_____ STATE_____

Make check or money order payable to New England Library Association; send to Miss Marion F. Holt, Elmwood Public Library, 275 Elmwood Ave., Providence 7, R. I. Register now and avoid waiting in line.

(Hotel rates, see back of folder)

NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Mrs. Jane B. Hobson, President
Free Public Library Commission
Montpelier, Vermont

SPECIAL CONVENTION RATES	Daily Per Person including Room and 3 Meals
Double Room with Bath, Twin beds, Landside	$12.00
Double Room with Bath, Twin beds, Oceanview	$12.50 and $13.00
Double Room with Bath, Twin beds, Hotel Cottages	13.50 and 14.00
Large Room with Bath, Three beds	11.75 and 12.00
Large Room with Bath, Four beds	11.75
Suite, 2 Double Rooms, Bath between, 4 beds, Oceanview	11.25 and 11.50
Suite, 2 Double Rooms, Bath between, 5 beds (limited)	13.00
Suite, 2 Double Rooms, Bath between, 6 beds (limited)	11.50
Choice Corner or Bay Window Room with bath, twin beds	10.50 and 11.25
Choice Corner or Bay Window Room with bath, 3 beds	14.25 and 14.75
Single Room with Bath	12.75
Single Room with Bath, Hotel Cottages	$15.00, 16.00 and 17.00
Double Room with Bath for single occupancy	13.00 and 14.00
Single Room with running water, Hotel Cottages	17.50
	12.50

Room reservations should be made directly with the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

Date: Tuesday - SEPTEMBER 29th -- 1959
Time: 10 A. M.
Place: Publick House in STURBRIDGE, MASS.
We think you'll like this -- charming surroundings, easy to reach for most, and free, convenient parking.

PROGRAM

10:00 a.m. Commons Room ← lowest floor, entrances from parking areas

(1) SHORT BUSINESS MEETING ← annual reports will be typed for reading later

(2) SPEAKER - Miss Miriam Putnam ← outstanding librarian, Putnam Memorial Hall Library, Andover, Massachusetts, Past President, State and National Adult Education Association, and a wonderful speaker.

SUBJECT -- "How Do Trustees Earn Community Respect for the Library?"

12:30 -- Craft Hall -- BUFFET LUNCH $3 including tax & tip-
Seafood newburg, sliced turkey, fruit salad, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, strawberry ice cream puff, etc.

NOTE: ALL MEETINGS are BEFORE luncheon -- so by 2:30 you can visit Sturbridge Village, sit on the terrace, or head for home.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING! (We must give the hotel some idea of how many)

ALL TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS ARE INVITED

- JUST FILL OUT, TEAR OFF, AND MAIL - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

to: Mrs. Eleanor Wallis
Massachusetts Library Trustees Association
405 Edmands Road
Framingham, Massachusetts

HOW MANY OTHERS WILL BE WITH YOU?

_____

Yes -- I think I'll be able to attend the MLTA Annual Meeting at Sturbridge on September 29th.

Signed: _____

Address _____

_____

NOTE: for your convenience a 1960 Membership Slip is also enclosed.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
February 16, 1961

Notes of Group No. 2 (Central Region) Recorder

A. Financing

1. Is the state aid under G.L. c. 78, §19A in fact "new" money -- or merely "old" money distributed under a new label? To be sure, the "cherry sheet" will contain a new entry; yet, with allowance for differences in the distribution formulae, won't the amount received under that new entry correspond closely to the amount which, but for the new statute, would have been distributed anyway under an existing "cherry sheet" entry?

2. Won't the announced 21¢ per capita limitation forced by Section 2 of Chapter 761 of the Acts of 1960 leave in a hole those communities which have counted on 25¢?

3. Under the limitation of Section 3 of Chapter 761, how much state aid will be available for the proposed regional public library systems outside the Metropolitan Boston Region?

B. Regional Services

1. What will happen to the inter-library loan functions of the State Division of Library Extension?

2. What kinds of services will be provided by the proposed regional reference and research centers? For example:

a. Telephone inquiries? What kinds? By whom?

b. Inter-library loans?

c. Union catalogues?

d. In-service training and other professional counselling for the staffs of the local libraries? Regional experts will ride circuit? Regional clinics? member

e. Film service?

f. Centralized processing?

g. Extension of existing cooperative buying?

h. Will local member libraries continue to buy reference books?

3. Where will be the regional reference and research center or centers in the Central Region?

4. By what date must a proposal for such a center be submitted to the Board of Library Commissioners? What are the mechanics for seeing that such a proposal is drawn up and submitted?

5. What are the criteria for assigning the localities to a region? Considerable dismay was expressed over the revised assignment read by Miss Cahill:

Mrs. George R. Wallace
Wallace Public Library
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

Miss Alice M. Cahill
Division of Library Extension
Massachusetts Department of Education
200 Newbury Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Mrs. Helen S. Harding
Gale Free Library
Holden, Massachusetts

Mr. Gordon Gaskill
Waltham Public Library
Waltham, Massachusetts

Mrs. Muriel C. Javelin
Boston Public Library
Boston, Massachusetts

Mr. Hugh F. Colliton, Jr.
Wayland
Massachusetts

Mass. Library Assn.

2/16/61

+ + +

Amount to be paid will appear as "money items".
Instrument will be on basis of 21¢ per capita, not 25¢.

We should include in our budget request that we expect right to keep of State aid.

No steps attached - 4 apt improvement in library standards. Aid upgrades dont rest on top rate.

1960 U.S census figures to be used - which will include people in hospitals, military installations, etc. After State census became available in 1965, it will be used (91.c.4)

In many instances State will provide no new money - eg, older & larger cities paid more under old formula (which was not based on 1960 census?) But purpose of statute is to improve library service, not provide money; also under other sections of laws aid will be granted. Point is that library money is shifted off municipal - amount to septuple - and go to communities under old formula. Regional library program, too, is supported by appropriation from General Fund; so is this money.

No application need be filed by Trustees: 91A is checks to State Treasurer. Look at 91B, too, as to orders of expenditure.

State grant can be appropriated by trustees for local library service. This is what statute says, strongly. If state aid is a "money item" it is used as credit against

tax levy & so can be appropriated for special purposes.

Dist budget running expenses or strength of overlap aid?

Acceptg state aid doesn't prohibit charges of out-of-town users.

Except of gradualness allows this to meet standards as to qualify for aid. Standards are determined by Board of Library Commissioners; these can be modified if need be

Many sparsely populated communities in rural library which receive public would probably be counted in determining qualifications under statute. But question as to whether district Committee can legally maintain public library.

16,000 - 25,000 pop considered a reasonable grouping; but this is subject to review by Commissioners.

Five towns already have to dedicate part of levy for library purposes.

259 of 351 municipalities filed notice of eligibility for grant. This is 74%.

1,300,000 necessary to reflect law for all communities; but 4 yrs ago this limitation was 1,000,000. Legislature likely considered this year to continue 1,000,000 limitation. Has to be passed by Commissioners.

ZUNCH

Jordan Hasell, Librarian at Hillsborough

Miss Cahill, Mrs. Hadley, Mrs Wallace (Hadley)

What else about Hillsborough's £5,000 sample: new money or old money under new label?

Jim Tucker, Clifford Literacy: answers many questions about collections.

Regional Centres:

Public Library Use & response would

What will happen to city Library use if Devon decentralises & puts responsibility at county regional levels (5 options); but development of this will be gradual, so Devon will have a chance to see how centres & customers develop. Devon will not become sensible. Decentralisation will create this & split issues (2 days eg.).

Role? Clifford Trustee: 5 yearly appointments must be always at least 4 years.

Adrian, Fulham: would telephone users & regular library be desirable? Yes.

Mary Hedley, Hadley Library: what sort of queries would be asked by telephone.

Mrs Bailey: city Library has more than reference service.

Mrs. Shirley, Uxbridge: duties & responsibility, etc.?

Don't it have access to the (Uxbridge, Mass.)? It had been established because libraries failed to attract the people. If you don't complete application & don't meet standards, you can be upset — but not till next year, said Dix.

Mrs. Mr. Auburn: Could inter-library loans be arranged by telephone? Many times — for Southbridge people & we phone in reference questions. Very much easier questions — but they can be answered by mail. Don't hold phone. Not only talk.

Who would make calls? Librarians, not trustees.

Have catalogue for each region (Mrs Wallace)? Regions have to decide what kind of stories & pictures. If consolidation occurs, must be written up & agreed upon what is to be submitted to Commissioners.

Mrs. Mary Hopkinton: What library is to be central library for region? Uncertain. Don't yet know to have yet. Not, in available — state-wide. Uncertain to build new library. Prefers say 60 or 80 books & Both, but it hasn't been decided yet

Mrs.? from Auburn = central organization better than

Richard Worcester & Leominster = reference service isn't proper purpose of regional library; central regional library is to stimulate thru quality local —

libraries. Miss Cahill suggests that regional staff might include staff to advise localities on operation. How must plan go in? Before 6/30/61 fiscal year ends — probably about a week before. If localities buy operating books (after they bid & operate up by regional specialists) or does regional library get them? Miss Wallace thinks localities would buy.

Possibility of the series being for local outside personnel? But this also regional plan, particularly library in operation unit. Have choice. Mrs Pierce for Berle, says no. Ditto; also Knolly proposed consultant to area might work & helpful. But Clark U. had 6 discontinue when aware of this source because in effect. (It charged $15 for, though.) Great choice when for library to train is to limited.

Should film series prepare? Centralized processing series? Right link if area large enough.

Correspondence very possible.

Thurs 4/27
Phone p.m. 8 p.m. Wisconsin, library

Prospectus being read by Miss Cahill: Clayton requested & Smith. Tentative, though. Reassurance

Wayne Hanley calls up & Bob. Says he doesn't like it as well as Christmas.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Boston Public Library
Boston 17, Massachusetts

February 21, 1961

Mr. William A. Waldron
53 State Street
Boston 10, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Waldron:

This comes to express the appreciation of the Massachusetts Library Association and the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association, as well as my own personal thanks, for your assistance at last Thursday's State Aid Institute.

I know that there are many questions on State Aid which are still troubling Massachusetts librarians and trustees. I hope that you will have recorded as many of these as possible. I shall look forward to your reports which I understand are being compiled by Mr. Gaskill. I hope you feel as I do, that although the group discussions did not always result in answers, the Institute participants do at least have a better understanding of what still needs to be done before State Aid will actually be in effect.

Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Muriel C. Javelin

(Mrs.) Muriel C. Javelin
Vice President
Massachusetts Library Association

MCJ:RE

THE BAY STATE LIBRARIAN

Bulletin of the Massachusetts Library Association

668 ACTS, 1960. — CHAP. 760.

Chap. 760. AN ACT PROVIDING STATE AID FOR FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to immediately provide state aid to the public libraries of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 78 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 19 the following four sections:—

[illegible] 19A. The state treasurer shall annually, on or before July [illegible] of the taxation on incomes under chapter [illegible] by the board of library com- [illegible] of free public [illegible]

STATE AID IN REVIEW

(1) To each [illegible] sum equivalent to the amo[illegible] library service during the preceding year, [illegible] five hundred dollars;

(2) To each city and to each town having a population of two thousand or more, a sum not exceeding twenty-five cents for each resident therein; provided, that such city or town appropriated during the preceding year for its free public library service at least five hundred dollars.

No city or town which appropriates for its free public library service in any one year an amount less than three dollars per capita of population shall receive any money under this section, if such appropriation is below the average of its appropriation for free public library service for the four years immediately preceding.

If a city or town is eligible for state aid under this section, but gives approved free public library service only for a fraction of the year, the amount it shall receive shall be the amount computed hereunder multiplied by such fraction.

Section 19B. The board of library commissioners, in setting up

April
1962

BEST SELLER *non-fiction*

Now in its tenth edition, this much-in-demand brochure tells how to put "NEW LIFE" in your library. An accurate, interesting, always entertaining survey of a furniture style that opened the door on a whole new world of functional beauty.

▪ *Actually, this is the latest edition of Sjöström's Catalog L-61 on "NEW LIFE" Library Furniture. And, it's yours for the asking.*

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New Life
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SJÖSTRÖM USA

RACHEL P. HOOPER
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HOmestead 9-0727

THE BAY STATE LIBRARIAN

Published by the Massachusetts Library Association

Editor, John N. Berry, III

April, 1962 Volume 52, No. 2

CONTENTS

The State Aid Route for Massachusetts Libraries by *Mrs. V. Genevieve Galick* 3

Pennies from Heaven by *Charles Copeland* 5

The Trustee: A Weather Eye on State Aid by *C. Nelson Bishop* 7

House No. 366: An Act to Govern Expenditure of State Aid Grants 9

Statement of Representative Kaplan on House No. 366 9

Comments from State Aid Questionnaire 10

Report of the By-Laws Committee of MLA 12

Annual Meeting of MLA, Program 13

Necrology 14

Massachusetts Library Association Officers 1961-2

President — Muriel Javelin, Boston

Vice President and President Elect — Miriam Putnam, Andover

Secretary — A. William Kunkel, Newton

Treasurer — Thomas J. Galvin, Simmons

Archivist — Ada A. Andelman, Boston

Issued in January, April, July and October by the Massachusetts Library Association. 2nd class mail privileges authorized at Boston, Mass.

Members receive Bay State Librarian without charge. Dues: Members with salary under $3,000 — $2; $3,001-4,500 — $3; $4,501-6,00 — $4; $6,001 and over — $5; associates, trustees, out-of-state, retired, and unemployed librarians — $1; institutional — $10; life $50.

Articles and news should be sent to Mr. John N. Berry, III, Editor, Simmons College Library, 300 The Fenway, Boston, Mass.

Letters about subscriptions, single copies or membership should be sent to Mr. Thomas J. Galvin, Treasurer, Simmons College Library, 300 The Fenway, Boston 15, Mass.

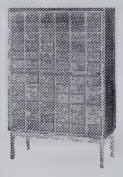
Letters about advertising should be sent to Mr. Gordon A. Gaskill, Business Manager, Waltham Public Library, 735 Main St., Waltham 54, Mass.

DESIGNER LINE

DL

LIBRARY FURNITURE

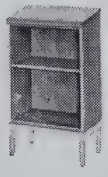
Never before have so many wanted features been so beautifully blended and superbly designed into library furniture



cooperatively created by librarians, architects and engineers...distinctively designed of wood and metal

flexibility of materials for architectural treatments

trimly styled for lightness . . . masterfully constructed for structural strength



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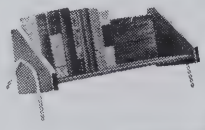

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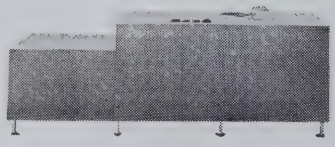

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THE STATE AID ROUTE FOR MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARIES

by Mrs. V. Genevieve Galick, Director, Division of Library Extension

One editorial staff writer has described this new route as "a rocky road from dream to reality . . . a rough and winding road, slowed by political detour and administrative potholes." Fifteen months have elapsed since the Legislature, in the fall of 1960, passed and the Governor signed a bill with an emergency preamble providing state aid to public libraries of Massachusetts. Any progress report on state aid at this time must of necessity be a relatively superficial review. It is many months too soon to do any real evaluation of the impact of state aid on local library service to library users. Eventually, however, this is where the measuring tape must be applied!

For now let's look down that new route which these past several months has been so heavily trafficked with many extra and special meetings of the Board of Library Commissioners; numerous conferences with state officials; miles of correspondence and telephone conversations with local librarians, library board members and city and town officials and with meetings at the far corners of the Commonwealth.

The legislation offered as assistance to the public libraries in this Commonwealth was a divided highway—a legal production in two parts. The first part, designated as Sections 19A and B, provides a state grant program to municipalities which apply for same, and wherein the public library service meets certain minimum standards established by the Board of Library Commissioners. The second part, designated as Section 19C and D, mandates a comprehensive statewide program of regional public library systems.

To finance the direct grant part of the state aid program, the legislature made a $.25 per resident charge against the state income tax revenue and simply designated as "library" money a certain portion of that income tax revenue due to be returned to municipalities anyway under the "so-called equalization formula." Furthermore the legislation itself does not bind or obligate local fiscal authorities to use the grant for public library service.

The second part which provides for a comprehensive statewide program of regional public library systems is backed with "new" money. The legislature in 1961 appropriated $768,000 from the state's general fund to initiate the regional systems.

Massachusetts has recognized the objectives of library extension for over seventy years. For the first half of that three score and ten year period, extension efforts were primarily directed to th the establishment of local city and town libraries. In the second half of the period, extension emphasis was placed on the building up of certain auxiliary services supplied by the state library extension agency—known since 1952 as the Division of Library Extension. With the passage in 1960 of the State Aid for Public Libraries legislation, the library extension concept has been broadened further by a number of elements which are all integral parts of the total extension movement. Local public library service may be improved, extended, and equalized through a direct state grant which is tied to specific standards of library service and personnel. A plan of regional public library systems is advanced—creating an intermediate unit between the state and the local library unit to provide auxiliary services beyond the reach of many local units. This regional plan is predicated on the premise that, wherever practicable, there are unique advantages to

anchoring a regional system to an already existing large central library or libraries.

Let's check progress to date first on the "direct grant" approach. For 1961, the General Court placed a ceiling of $1,000,000 on the charge against the income tax revenue from which the direct grants to local municipalities were to be paid. The law itself specifies that towns having a population of under 2,000 shall receive a grant equivalent to the amount appropriated locally for public library service during the preceding year, but in no event should the state grant exceed five hundred dollars. The grant to cities and towns having a population of 2000 or more is based on a sum not exceeding $.25 for each resident therein. Furthermore the law goes on to stipulate that a city or town appropriating in any one year for its public library service an amount less than $3.00 per capita shall receive no direct grant money if the local appropriation in any one year is below that for the four years immediately preceding. It is interesting to note in regard to this stipulation that in 1960 only 46 Massachusetts cities and towns appropriated $3.00 per capita or more for their public library service.

Exercising its powers, the Board of Library Commissioners, with the assistance of a special advisory committee of librarians, established minimum standards of public library service to apply in certifying municipalities for the direct grant. Supervisory personnel on the Division's staff conducted seventeen clinics in various parts of the state to explain the state aid doctrine. Two hundred and fifty nine municipalities filed an intention of applying for a state grant in 1961. Because of the $1,000,000 ceiling on the 1961 payment, the grants to individual municipalities had to be reduced from $.25 to $.21 per capita. By the time the 1961 formal grant applications were actually filed, the 259 cities and towns had decreased to 237 municipalities. The sum of $974,442.65 was paid out to these 237 municipalities as a "top of the bottle" deduction creamed from the 1961 state income tax revenue. *(Continued on page 15)*

Colonial Book Service

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PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

by Charles Copeland
Librarian, Salem Public Library

I am a fossil!! Something left over from early times; a curiosity not evolved to present day perfection. Alas, I do not find myself an advocate of state aid to libraries. Some one has to dissent and I am a natural dissenter, a man who views with alarm, a discoverer of hidden dangers.

When the state aid legislation was pending in the General Court, a Representative, not from my district, asked me to express my views. I did, only to receive a letter from him that said, in part, "G--d G-d! Do you mean to say that you are against receiving money? I burned your letter so it will not fall into the hands of the Un-American Activities Committee. Your attitude invites investigation." State aid, how nice that sounds; but what goes with it, now and in the future?

In my college days I had a delightful friend who could recite and sing nearly all of Gilbert and Sullivan, and consume large amounts of coffee as well. We would often meet in the evening to go to the local "greasy spoon" for coffee, which in those days cost five cents a cup. (That is some indication of my antiquity.) After the coffee he would always say, casually, "Can I borrow a dime from you?" I confess that I always enjoyed being his "guest," knowing I was a paying guest. State aid is much like this. Annually the Commonwealth divides among the cities and towns money received from taxes of various sorts. The money for state aid is then paid to the municipalities in practically the same ratio as the division of tax money, except, of course, the cost of handling the cash an extra time. One of the laws that Mr. Parkinson was unable to include in his admirable book is: "Financial aid from high sources is diminished geometrically in amount while in transit to its object, in a bureaucracy." In plain English, the state has given us but our own, what e'er the gift may be. The very same money could have come from our local governments, without the deductions, if we had gone after it. This is where I am out of step; never shoot Santa Claus, just accept the "gift" and be happy. Money grants, since 1932, have been pennies from heaven and one should never be so heretical that he inquires as to the source of the money. I like to get presents, even at my age, but this business still reminds me of my coffee drinking friend.

Now that the state has "given" this money, we are presented with standards —not goals, but standards. As one reads them the first odor seems to be trade unionism—not scholarship but union cards. Of course, I'm out of step again since a large part of my professional life has been spent in university or private scholarly libraries where the standards were intellectual. Another friend, for many years head of the mathematics department of a famous university, retired to a small town where he had the chance to substitute for a mathematics teacher in the local high school, and with considerable success. The next autumn the school board, in need of a competent math teacher, appointed the retired professor to serve for one year. When the matter was reported to the State Board of Education (not Massachusetts) the appointment was voided on the ground that the professor was not qualified to teach, because he did not have his "union card." Alas the poor benighted heathen was of the lesser breed without the law, he had never studied *Blackboard Erasing I* or *Advanced Window Raising II*, and naturally he was unqualified to teach young and unformed minds.

Professional training is not to be thrust aside, and it is still the best approach to library work, but is it the *summum bonum* in this field? When I was in

the Peabody Museum one of my delights was the quaint phrasing of eighteenth century indentures in which the party of the first part promised to teach the apprentice "the art and mystery of navigation" or coopering or some such trade. I am aware that art is long but I had never realized that mystery was equally as long until I read the standards. The art and mystery of librarying evidently descends from the library school in some mystic manner not unlike the descent of the Holy Ghost at ordination. I still marvel at the manner in which the school can always pick the superior person who has all knowledge, all wisdom, and a perfect personality to such a degree that the lesser mortals can always be sent to outer darkness. Oh yes, I certainly want trained people, but I want scholarship too!

Today we make a fetish of conformity; a new car every year, girl scouts for all, a barbecues in the backyard, and yews at the door. This is wonderful if you move into a new neighborhood; all problems of adjustment are removed since everyone is Model Mark IA. Now our libraries are to be nice, sanitary, interchangeable institutions, the same departments for all, in identical positions much like the style of a chain drug store. It has not reached that point yet, but the seed is there and the passion for conformity can do the rest. We will all have our record departments and our film departments and then 10 years hence we will make room for a department of long greeting cards and a battery of couches for quick psychoanalysis. Come let us conform, be all things to all men (they're taxpayers ain't they), we have to catch up with the modern drug store peddling tires, bicycles, kitchen ware, cosmetics, floppy straw hats, and hardly a drug on the premises. It is wonderful on paper to see such plans and it neatly eliminates serious planning for community needs.

We once decided to have films to serve the community, but the community refused to be served in spite of the effort of the library. We gave it up and installed a simple form of free film directory to aid the very few who did come to us for such material, then we turned that money over to books. That was a good move. Since then we have been busy lending those books to neighboring libraries, all of which have film collections. Public interest or need should be disregarded in the interests of conformity, films must be stocked, if only to be dusted.

The above tirade will be only a tempest in a teapot to most people. I am a "point with alarmer" in the matter of control and I do feel that state aid can and will lead to a form of control and dead conformity.

They (the conspiratorial, lurking, and always unnamed "they") have cut the ground from under my feet by placing people like Dick Sullivan and Mrs. Galick in high prices. Somehow I cannot cast them in the roles of sinister conspirators intent on destroying the rights of libraries, for I know their ideals are higher than my own. The danger is not immediate. We are not going to be strangled in a week, month, year, or even a decade, but we have the apparatus in embryonic form to insure conformity in administrative practice, book selection, and even thought. The poor Arab who let his camel stick a cold nose in the tent did not expect to be dispossessed, but he was! With a pressure group in control at some time in the future, little changes can be made in the present system and then one suddenly discovers that he has been playing the sausage game. The sausage game is the technique of "borrowing" one slice of another fellow's sausage, since the request is reasonable it is granted, then a second, third, and many more slices until the owner has only the string. More rights have been lost to the sausage game than to wars, or revolutions, with the scene always set by well-intentioned people.

What do I offer in place of state aid? Have you ever tried to find a substitute for the attractiveness of money? Just try to out bid the money-giver and see what happens. All I can offer is sweat, tears, and lean rations. Who wants those when money is lying around. The love of money is still the root of all evil.

(Continued on page 20)

THE TRUSTEE: A WEATHER EYE ON STATE AID

by C. Nelson Bishop
Board of Library Trustees, Reading, Mass.

And how is state aid doing in your town? Are you saying, "I told you so," or has a turn in the forecast brought to your predictions an unimpressed "Humph," or are you a middle-of-the-roader with a Yankee weather eye cocked to detect mounting cumulus over Town Hall and your ear set to gather in any vote-sweeping rush of the winds from Beacon Hill?

In a large sense, there is reason for that latter course until we have a more distinct pattern to show whether the balancing of the state-aid books will indicate a profit for the library.

The grant-in-aid provisions are rooted in controversy because they involve the distribution of tax money. The segregation of a portion of the cash returnable to cities and towns into an earmarked till for library spending and then the apportionment of it on a different formula from that used in sharing the general distribution provokes divergent reaction from municipal fiscal officers across the state.

The smaller communities get more of the money under the population formula but the larger ones find their share has been cut so that the over-all distribution costs them money. When the town gets a bit more out of the deal the finance officers are inclined to give their word of approval, but a good many of them express reservations about the earmarking of the money for library use. They want it in the surplus revenue fund where it can be used for tax-rate reduction—and in many towns that's just what happens. Earmarking is ignored.

The intent of the legislation was that the earmarking would be honored and the amount of state-aid return would be added to the library's appropriation, in anticipation of state reimbursement. Library trustees have met varying reactions from their finance committees. Some boards have been given their regular appropriations. Later requests for additional funds have met with some leniency because of the extra amount returned to the treasury. At the other extreme, at least one library board found that state aid only made the library a conversation piece in the city council, and the existing budget was cut even further, along with the assurance that the state aid would not be turned over when it arrived.

This is a matter for trustee concern and the dealings to be had with a town's finance controls call for an ever-alert weather eye. It means firm, but careful steps in setting forth library development and selling the town some realistic budgeting.

One may bravely argue that a finance committee is only an advisory body. It is the town meeting or the city council that has the final say in the appropriation of money. But finance committees generally can feel assured of a vote of confidence from those with the appropriating authority and a committee's argument can go most of the way in making or breaking a departmental plea for funds. Fincoms are made up, as a rule, of men who have strong feelings about municipal departmental policies. Those who lean to our side of a question can be alienated and those who oppose can be won over. If you can sell your library policies to your fincoms then your public relations program is well in hand.

The state aid grants seem to be pretty well liked in the towns where it results in an over-all financial profit and the town fathers want the library trustees to apply for it.

This would appear to give the trustees a regulating lever. A refusal to pass along the extra funds could cause the board to refuse to apply for the aid the

following year and thus force a deal. Opinion has been expressed, however, that this could be followed by the town's executive officers taking administrative steps and acquiring the money. Budgetary figuring could be so handled as to keep the appropriations within the prescribed comparative limits. All of this could result in the trustees losing ground in the public relations field.

Standards set by the state in order for a library to qualify for grants-in-aid have met contention. Exception to state dictatorship, because state funds are involved, has been taken by the home-rule advocates on municipal finance committees.

Library trustees have little objection to seeing the standards raised. Too long, many of them feel, has the library been looked upon as a minor sort of operaton that requires little in the way of technical skills backed by strong educational preparation. It is time, they figure, that library users be made aware that library operation is not just another clerical job. Anything that puts standards on the escalator is likely to meet trustee approval.

But over at Town Hall they look at these standards in another light. Setting personnel training on a broader educational basis, fixing a minimum number of hours of weekly operation, introducing other service requirements, will be reflected, they say, in the budget. They charge that Beacon Hill thus sets up controls over local government. "A plague on both your (legislative) houses," they say.

Here again, friend trustees, let's face the question: "How's your public relations program?" If the taxpayers are sold on your service and want more of it, then the fincom ought somehow to find out about it.

The grant-in-aid program may have more done to it later—particularly if tax distributions are due for a slash. Let's drop it here for the moment and consider that other little matter known as the regional library system.

Here you'll find trustees who'll divide sharply. There seems to be a real difference of opinion as to whether the finance as planned will pay for the system, and possibly some won't be satisfied until they see an experience balance sheet.

With reference facilities becoming more and more important as a tool in education, centralized reference libraries with quick-retrieval and exchange merchandise mechanisms seem a most logical development. It could well spark a gain in the non-fiction departments and might cause the local library to decrease its purchases of current popular fiction. (Do we hear a sotto voce "Good thing!"?)

Could we see public education getting back to the point where a student learns how to learn rather than to commit skills to memory and muscle, the reference library could gain in its appeal.

Wide expression seems to have been given by some trustees against opening the use of the local library to strangers from out of town. This matter may have its debatable components but it would seem that here, too, a lively public relations program would help clarify the local library's problem. It would mean middle-of-the-road participation in the regional program, not just sitting on the fence to watch and then deciding on the basis of observation alone.

Legislation has been proposed which would place the library somewhat in the position of the school committee where the finance committee would have little or no power to cut the budget and state law would protect the library's access to adequate funds. Perhaps there are trustees who would hail such a move. There is the more sober consideration, however, that any state paternalism that puts a local institution beyond the control of the people is bad legislation. There is some ground for argument that the school department has more of this protection than it is entitled to. There is grave doubt whether library trustees should press for —or even express a willingness to accept —this sort of legislation.

After all, finance committees can be brought around to reason; mayors and

(Continued on page 19)

HOUSE No. 366

By Mr. Kaplan of Brookline, petition of Sumner Z. Kaplan for legislation to provide that state aid for free public libraries may be expended by library trustees without appropriation. State Administration.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Two

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT STATE AID FOR FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES BE EXPENDED BY LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF CITIES AND TOWNS WITHOUT APPROPRIATION.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to immediately provide that funds received by cities and towns from the commonwealth as aid to free public libraries may be expended by the library trustees of such cities and towns without further appropriation; therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 19A of chapter 78 of the General Laws, inserted by section 1 of chapter 760 of the acts of 1960, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: — Any amount received from the state pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be deposited with the treasurer of such city or town and held as a separate account, and expended by the library trustees of said city or town without further appropriaction notwithstanding the provisions of section fifty-three of chapter forty-four.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE SUMNER Z. KAPLAN ON PENDING STATE AID LEGISLATION

The chances for passage of the Bill to clarify and insure State Aid to Public Libraries depends to a great deal on the effectiveness of public support. This public support should be initiated by librarians and those interested in the future development of our libraries. Direct contact with the members of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives through the medium of letters and personal visits and telephone calls will be most helpful if the contacts develop the factual reasons for support of the measure—H. 366.

I have supported State aid to libraries and have filed H. 366 because I think it is essential that the place of the library in our educational process be elevated. This was the intention of the Legislature in passing earlier legislation to provide for State aid to libraries.

Some municipalities have thwarted the legislative intent by resisting the spirit of the earlier legislation. H. 366 would prevent these municipalities from appropriating money given them by the State for library purposes to any other service.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR—New position in growing residential suburb 12 miles southwest of Boston. Active library program; progressive community; modern building with plans for expansion; 1 branch library. Vacation, sick leave, group insurance, retirement benefits; 37½ hour, 5-day week. Experienced librarian with Library Science degree or equivalent in professional courses. Write to: Mrs. Harold F. Fenerty, Secretary, Trustees, 40 Pleasant Hill, Westwood, Mass.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR — Town of Greenfield, Library Science degree required. Salary $5500$6500. 39½ hour week - Sick leave - Town retirement and health insurances - Two week vacation. Apply: Miss Winnifred Curtis, Trustee, Greenfield Public Library, Greenfield, Mass.

COMMENTS FROM STATE SURVEY

A selection of comments from librarians and trustees made in response to a questionnaire distributed by the Massachusetts Division of Library Extension regarding grants-in-aid received in 1961 under the state aid legislation.

"The State Aid Grant to the Town of ——— was $6,524.49. Of this amount $1,914.24 was allotted to the library as additional funds.

"Since the town would have received $4,610.25 from the Income Tax receipts anyway and since the Town Finance Committee was counting on that for various purposes, the Trustees did not feel that they had any right to ask for the whole amount as additional money for the library alone." — 6A Librarian

"It was made clear to the Selectmen, the Town Treasurer and Comptroller that the check received was for library expenditure. The benefit to this library was psychological rather than financial.

"As long as the budget, as set up and requested by the trustees of the library, is allowed by the Advisory Committee and voted by the Town Meeting, the amount of state aid money received will in effect reduce the net cost of the library to the town. If, however, the Advisory Committee should attempt to reduce our budget, we would insist that the state aid be in addition to the amount voted by the town." — 7A Librarian

"When the Bill was first passed, I had an item in the newspaper saying that *When* (not *If*) ——— got its money, we would use it to increase hours at the branch library and in the children's room at the main library—both very popular improvements. From then on whenever I talked to the Town Manager or members of the Finance and Library Committees, I would bring this matter up and say that I felt this would be the best use of the money. I never asked anyone whether they thought we should accept the money or whether we should use it for a regular budget item. I simply said that we were getting the money and it would be for "expanded service" and let them discuss what the best "expanded service" would be. This year we have already begun discussion of what to do with the 'extra money'."—3A Librarian

"This librarian feels very strongly that the legislation as it stands is weak, and allows city officials legally to do what has been done here. Our experience indicates that the legislation is of no benefit to our library, since it permits the city to cut its library appropriation, relying on state funds to make up the difference. The city has, therefore, relaxed to that degree its responsibility toward the library.

"For our library it merely presents problems, with no benefit." — 6B Librarian

"No beneficial effects as we have not yet subjected ourselves to state rule. None other than asking our local representatives to oppose it as another example of the state mixing up with home rule at a greater expense than could be done at the local level." — 1A Chairman of Trustees

"Increase in book budget, supplementing book purchase income available from trustee held funds; no city appropriation for books has ever been made previously. Once the City Manager fully understood the terms and intent of the law there was no question as to whether the grant was meant as an addition to the regular appropriation for the library. The City Council raised no question when the matter was explained." — 6C Librarian

"Of the $19,400 to be allocated to ———, we requested in our book budget an additional amount of $15,000 over the 1960 appropriation. This we received. The balance of the grant was budgeted for equipment, rental of charging machines, supplies, and additional staff. Of these latter items we received about 1,000 dollars for equipment, the balance of the especially earmarked funds were swallowed up by the city.

"Our significant increase in book funds may be attributed to the availability of the grant but on the other hand, we may have received it anyway owing to a great deal of interest taken by the ——— League of Women Voters in the Library's book budget.

From our experience this year, I would think that, in ——— at least, it is best to request the State Aid grant for a single specific project rather than spread it over many items.

"It would be helpful if the State Aid grants were required to be used for library purposes. For this purpose, it should be all 'new money.'"—7B Librarian

"Our selectmen were very cooperative. The educational meeting in Greenfield prepared the library trustees on the best way to get the measure through the necessary channels. The selectmen held up the printing of the town warrant long enough to get the article in asking the town to accept the grant. When the time came to receive the money the trustees checked with the treasurer and he was helpful in getting the grant into the right department. This could have caused much confusion since the grant does not state where it is to go. Ours is now in the library fund and we will notify the town accountant when amounts are to be drawn from it." — 1B Librarian

"In February the Town Finance Committee was in the final throes of the budget and in no mood to listen. However, I delivered to the Chairman about 10 copies of the Library Aid Law, the library standards and a breakdown of my proposal for spending the money if they would *add* it to our budget. The same material was given to the treasurer. I requested time to explain the law, etc., but the committee was too busy.

"As you know from the report which was submitted last week, the State Aid money was applied bookkeeping-wise to our budget, thus reducing the town's contribution by the $3,000 approximately.

"In the next budget our entire apportionment will need to be applied to the purchase of books in order to meet the 15% requirement." — 3B Director

"Our local government officials expressed themselves in this way:

"'We've got everything to gain and nothing to lose by meeting the state requirements for the state aid to our library.'"—2C Librarian

"Only at a Special Town Meeting, August 2 (not called particularly for this item) was the Finance Committee's position of 'not recommended' defeated. Even the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen was opposed to our getting the 'extra' State Aid. Their position was that it was a 'reimbursement.' At the Annual Town Meeting in March, the library appropriation was upped by $1,500 (all for *one* of the 3 village libraries). So the town fathers reasoned that this windfall of $1,000 plus from the State meant only $500 need come out of tax funds. In spite of the fact that all local newspapers presented garbled accounts and editorials about this issue, when the vote finally came up in the August Town Meeting there was no discussion and it was passed with applause (against the rules!).

"As part of our effort to convince the Finance Committee that we should have the State Aid money in *addition* to what the town had voted in March, we checked on the ——— situation, to find out how others had reacted. It was not very encouraging. A deeply imbedded suspicion of State 'interference' of *any* kind prevails, not only among town officials but also among library boards *and librarians.*

"I found one Board of Selectmen who *forbade* the Library Board to apply for the Aid—causing some minor embarrassment to the Librarian who had sent in the preliminary request, though I think she was relieved that she was rescued from her foolishness by wiser hands!

"In my personal opinion, losing a Regional Center here a few years ago was currently a much greater loss to ——— libraries than missing out on this year's State Aid, willy or nilly. The $380 state aid for ——— Library this year is good, but is far less than we could have gained from one year's good service from a Regional Center and Bookmobile. How-

(Continued on page 18)

REPORT OF THE BY-LAWS COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

At the business session of the Annual Meeting in June, 1961, a question concerning the status of the Intellectual Freedom Committee arose. Despite the fact that it had been active for more than a decade, it was not recognized in the Association Constitution as a standing committee. One group of members at the meeting last June urged that the function of the Committee was largely the protest of restrictive legislation: thus the activity could be made a responsibility of the Legislative Committee and the Intellectual Freedom Committee discontinued.

A contrary faction argued that the Committee had a distinct function and should be made permanent. The subcommittee listed below was appointed to study the question.

We brought in the recommendation that there were educational and affirmative aspects of an intellectual freedom committee which requires it to remain a separate committee.

In accepting this recommendation the Executive Board instructed this subcommittee to draw up such Constitutional and By-Laws changes needed to make the Intellectual Freedom Committee a Standing Committee of the Association.

To that end we proposed the following change in the listing of Standing Committees in the Constitution:

"Article VII—Committees"
Section 1. Standing Committees.
Between the words "Finance," and Legislative," insert the words "Intellectual Freedom."

We proposed the following additional By-Law section defining the mission of the committee:

"Article IX-Duties of Committees"
"Section 12. Intellectual Freedom. The Intellectual Freedom Committee shall study, promote awareness of, and make recommendations to the Executive Board on all matters affecting Massachusetts readers' privileges under the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association."

After approving the above report at an Executive Board meeting a question arose concerning the Association's election procedure. The Nominating Committee, which is also the Elections Committee, said that a number of members had protested the expense of mailing out ballots to all members of the Association when there was only a single candidate for each office and no choice to be made on the ballot. The answer given them was that the By-Laws required the sending of ballots and the answer to that was that then the By-Laws should be changed.

This sub-committee grudgingly accepted the additional assignment of drawing up By-Law changes which would eliminate sending out of ballots when there was only one qualified nominee for each office to be filled.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that this makes no change in the present system of nominations. There are several ways by which additional nominations can be made; these remain unchanged. The amendments proposed by this sub-committee seek only to eliminate the mailing out of ballots when, as is usually the case, there is only one qualified nominee for each office.

The sub-committee proposes inserting a new section 1 in the present Article on elections, and re-numbering the other sections. New wording is *italicized.*

Article VII—Elections

Section 1. *If there is only one qualified nominee for each office the formality of an election will be dispensed with and the said nominee declared elected at the annual meeting.* Section 2. a. If *there is more than one qualified nominee for any office,* an official ballot shall be prepared by the Nominating Committee, which shall also act as a Committee on Elections, and shall include the names of any candidates proposed by petition.

b. Ballots shall be mailed to each member at least thirty days before the annual meeting of the Association.

c. To be counted ballots must be received by the Nominating Committee not less than seven days before the annual meeting.

(Continued on page 14)

LIBRARIANS AND BOOKS

Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Library Association
May 24-25, 1962, Schine Inn, Chicopee, Mass.

Program

Thursday, May 24:

11:00 Registration

12:15 Luncheon Meeting
Orientation to the Conference
Keynote Address: Thomas Mendenhall, President, Smith College
"Librarians as Readers"

2:30 New Trends In:
1. The Arts: Bartlett H. Hayes, Director, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover
2. Current Issues: Charles L. Robertson, Department of Government, Smith College, Northampton
3. Science & Technology: George R. Harrison, Dean, School of Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

4:00 Coffee Hour—Exhibits

6:00 The President's Reception

7:00 Dinner

8:30 Contemporary Poetry Readings: George E. Brown, English Department, Badford Junior College
Bradford Junior College

Friday, May 25

9:00 Massachusetts Library Association, Annual Meeting

10:00 Coffee Hour, Exhibits, Annual Meetings of Other Groups

10:45 Putting Our Books to Work: Discussion Groups in The Arts; Current Issues; Science and Technology

12:45 Final Luncheon:
Exchange of Gavel
Speaker: Henri Peyre, Yale University: "American Literature Seen from Europe"

2:30 Reception: Guided Tour of the H. R. Huntting plant and bindery.

SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Requests for scholarship help are far in excess of financial resources. Without substantial contributions from the membership, few students will receive financial aid for the coming academic year.

The Education Committee of the Massachusetts Library Association would like to match with $1,000 from the Association, the gifts of $500 each from the F. J. Barnard Company and from Campbell and Hall.

Members, trustees, and staff associations are urged to send scholarship contributions to Mr. Thomas J. Galvin, Treasurer, Massachusetts Library Association, Simmons College Library, $300 The Fenway, Boston 15, Mass.

All contributions are tax deductable.

Education Committee
Massachusetts Library Association

NECROLOGY

Elizabeth M. Gordon, deputy supervisor in charge of work with children of the Boston Public Library died suddenly on December 28.

Miss Gordon suffered a fatal heart attack on her way to attend her final meeting with the Children's Librarians before retiring from the Library's service. As deputy supervisor for twenty-one years, following thirteen years experience as Children's Librarian, she consistently upheld the standards of her predecessor, Alice M. Jordan.

Miss Gordon took her diploma in the fine arts at the Massachusetts School of Art in 1915; she received the B.S. degree in education from Boston University in 1927. Active professionally, she was a permanent member of Board of Directors of the Round Table of Children's Librarians, a member of national committees of A.L.A.'s Children's Services Division, a founder of the New England Children's Book Clinic, a member of the Women's National Book Association, and Secretary (1955-58) of the Massachusetts Library Association. She had many friends among leading librarians, publishers, booksellers, and editors of children's books.

A gentlewoman, accomplished in art and in music, an individual of strong character, and firm convictions, Miss Gordon was devoted to children and children's librarians, and was loved in turn. Her associates everywhere will be pleased to know that there is now being planned in the Boston Public Library a Memorial Fund in the name of Elizabeth M. Gordon.

Fanny Goldstein, Boston Public Library's Branch Librarian Emeritus, leader in community work, a pioneer in the promotion of inter-faith and inter-racial good will, and a missionary in the fostering of the writing, publishing and reading of books of Jewish interest, died on December 26, in Boston, in her seventy-third year. Entering the BPL's service in 1913, Miss Goldstein spent most of her library career as Librarian of the West End Branch in downtown Boston. The building was a distinguished one—the old "West Church," built in 1806 and designed by Asher Benjamin. Its location in the teeming West End, and at the fringe of aristocratic Beacon Hill, placed Miss Goldstein where her adventurous spirit and superb energies found an appropriate outlet.

"Fanny" was counselor and friend to newly arrived immigrants, to the discouraged unemployed, to youngsters in trouble with the law, and to many a bright lad who was working his way up from an otherwise bleak environment to success in high school and university. She had warm friends everywhere.

Miss Goldstein was the innovator of Jewish Book Month. Her work in the field of books by Jews or about the Jewish people was recognized by the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, when they honored her with joint titles of Branch Librarian Emeritus and Curator of Judaica upon the occasion of her retirement in 1958. The Judaica Collection, originally gathered by Miss Goldstein, and supplemented by a gift from the Ziskind Foundation of Boston, is now housed in the BPL's Central Library building. A Fanny Goldstein Memorial Judaica Book Fund has been authorized by the Trustees of the Library in her honor.

(Continued from page 12)

Section 3. Election of officers shall be announced at the last regular session of the annual meeting of the Association.

The changes have been approved by the Executive Board. This report serves to bring them to the attention of the membership. They will be voted upon at the annual meeting of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Lawrence E. Wikander, Chairman
Sub-Committee on By-Laws

CHIEF LIBRARIAN — Starting salary $5,148. Town of 15,700 pop., located within 8 minute drive of city with many cultural advantages. Req.: Master's Degree in Library Science, preferably 2 years practical experience. Submit resume to Board of Library Trustees, Town Hall, Agawam, Mass.

(Continued from page 4)

Despite the long and carefully planned education program, it was soon apparent that much confusion and discontent was fermenting in the minds of librarians relative to the direct grant program. Even though the legislative intent and spirit of the state grant program was to provide an incentive—to make it more palatable—for local anthorities to increase local appropriations for public library service, the Chapter 760 money in many communities was being diverted and appropriated for public services other than the public library. The minimum standards came in for a great deal of criticism as well. Some felt they were too high; others decried them as too low. On June 13, 1961, the Board scheduled a special meeting in the Auditorium of Suffolk University to give librarians and library trustees an opportunity to present their views.

As a result of data presented at this special meeting and in correspondence to the Board; and, after the application of the Minimum Standards formulated in December 1960 to all public libraries, it was decided imperative to make certain adjustments, changes, and clarifications to the standards. Some of these adjustments were upward; others were downward. To be effective, any standards must be general and minimal as well as flexible enough to change as they are put to the test. The revised Minimum Standards have been distributed to all libraries and will be applied in certifying public libraries for state grants in 1962.

In August 1961, the Board circulated a simple questionnaire to the 237 libraries which had received a 1961 state grant in an effort to evaluate the impact of the legislation. 210 or 88% of the municipalities replied on the questionnaire. 169 of the replies indicated that their 1961 municipal appropriation for public library service was increased over that of 1960. 83 cities and towns considered the increase directly attributable to the state aid legislation. The questionnaire revealed that library hours of opening had been increased in 60 communities; staff salaries had been increased in 55; and the number of staff members increased in 33. These improvements were checked by the local municipalities as representing beneficial effects of the state aid legislation.

An analysis of the 237 grants showed that 40 municipalities had received less under the state aid grant formula than they would have received if the $1,000,000 were distributed on the equalization formula!

On the plus side we had librarians commenting that the law helped in advancing the point that certain standards are necessary for a good library operation; — that their book appropriation was increased appreciably; — that their relationships with town government officials had been strengthened; — that new library furniture and office machine equipment had been purchased. In several communities where there is a multiplicity of independent local libraries, the state grant program has resulted in joint board meetings and the formation of town library councils! For the first

Reference
Bibliography

Member A.B.A.

Scholarly Journals
Americana

Harold M. Burstein

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time in history representatives of these several local libraries within one community sat down together to discuss common problems and cooperative efforts. This we look upon as solid progress.

In the fall of 1961 Representative Sumner Z. Kaplan of Brookline who filed the state aid legislation agreed to file legislation to amend the state aid bill. H366 was placed in the hopper. It pertains to Sections 19A and B only. If passed, it will insure that the Chapter 760 money goes into local municipalities already earmarked for librarians to be spent only at the discretion of the library trustees. A public hearing on H366 was scheduled on Monday, February 12, 1962 before the Legislative Committee on Municipal Finances. Appearing as proponents for the legislation were Richard J. Sullivan, Chairman of the Board of Library Commissioners, and several others representing the Massachusetts Library Association, the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association, and the State Federation of Women's Clubs. A counsel for the Selectmens' Association was the only person at the hearing to express an opposing view.

In the meantime negotiations are underway for payment of the 1962 grants. There are 340 cities and towns eligible for the direct grant because they have a local public library which is supported in whole or in part by public funds. 279 of the 340 municipalities have filed an intention of applying for a grant in 1962. On January 31, the list of these 279 municipalities was sent to the Department of Corporations and Taxation with the request that a total of $1,233,450 be deducted from state income tax revenue for distribution to cities and towns under Chapter 760 Acts of 1960. A statistical analysis of the 61 municipalities which did not file an intention of applying for the grant in 1962 reveals that 46 or 75% are communities with a population of under 5000; and that 45 of the 61 towns are located in western Massachusetts and on Cape Cod! If these 61 municipalities had applied for the grant, an additional $62,249.00 would have been requested from the income tax revenue for local distribution.

The 19C and 19D sections of the state aid law are by far the most challenging, and the most complex. Here the legislation authorizes the creation of a whole new concept and structure of public library service for Massachusetts. The Board of Library Commissioners is charged clearly and specifically with many major and important functions in meeting its legal responsibilities under this section of the law. The problem is a two-fold one—having both financial and professional aspects. Regional boundaries had to be delineated. Regional councils of librarians to help formulate regional plans, policies, and guiding principles had to be established. Regional system plans covering wide areas and embracing numerous separate municipalities must be developed. These operational system plans must be carefully reviewed and evaluated. Often opinions must be sought on legal, financial or technical questions.

The Board is anxious to see develop regional library systems which, wherever possible, build on the strengths of already existing libraries. The problem of melding and coordinating the ongoing rural library program, the local suburban community libraries and the largest libraries in the metropolitan area cities into a neat regional system package is a challenge to the wits of any library experts. These systems must provide improved library service for all, must utilize funds from various sources, and must be administered under an operational plan which takes into consideration not only the needs but also the resources and interests of the whole service area but at the same time it must not subordinate the authority or stifle the growth of any single participating library unit—however small it may be. The Board must also be ever mindful of the maintenance of a proper financial as well as professional balance between the supplementary services provided for the communities of under 25,000, and the reference and research services to be developed for and offered to communities of all sizes. The largest library in a metropolitan area must normally be concerned with service to the whole area. It cannot extend its services in-

finitely in all directions without harm and injustice to the home city which is paying the bills. Yet we know that libraries of all sizes in all parts of the state regularly extend special and routine services into a far-flung area to substitute for or supplement inadequate coverage in neighboring communities. The situation is a relative one! Only the other day, reading the 1961 annual report of a small community library in a western Massachusetts town was this point brought into sharp focus. This particular library is not a large library in a metropolitan city. It serves a town with a population of just under 5300; but it reports having 116 regular nonresident users representing 19 surrounding communities!

For purposes of regional library system planning, the Board has delineated five regional areas—a Western Region, Central Region, Northeastern Region, Metropolitan Boston Region and Southeastern Region. Operational plans for regional systems in the Western and Central Regions have already been formulated in the regions, and reviewed and approved by the Board. The Western Regional System plan has its central regional library located in Springfield. The communities under 25,000 of which there are 95 will be served by a fleet of three bookmobiles and by an advisory staff of library specialists. The reference and research services including interlibrary loan will be coordinated in Springfield and Northampton through a membership in the Hampshire Inter-Library Loan Center and via a chain of regional intermediate reference centers in Greenfield, Northampton, North Adams, and Pittsfield.

The Central Regional System will have its headquarters at the Worcester Public Library but administration of regional services will be shared by the Worcester and Fitchburg Public Libraries. The regional plan of service provides for advisory staff specialists operating from mobile units, for rotating book collections, for an extensive film service, and for a practical and functional program of inter-library loan and reference services.

As of this date the Board has not signed any contractual agreement with either system. In both instances there is some organizational work remaining to be done at the regional level and some checking out of legal and financial details at the state level. At this time also the City Councils of both Worcester and Fitchburg have the regional system plans before them for a vote of acceptance or rejection. The regional system financing will be on a reimbursement basis. Therefore the designated central libraries of the regional systems will have to first meet the expenses of all system services. The record of such expenses will be forwarded to the Division which will then match services against the region's operational plan before certifying the expenditures for reimbursement from the State Treasury.

Regional planning in the three other areas is not quite so far along but is underway. At this time it seems possible that the Board will accept an Eastern Area combining the Northeastern, Metropolitan Boston and Southeastern Areas for the development of a program of regional reference and research services by contract or arrangement with the Boston Public Library. Possibly the program of supplementary services to the communities of under 25,000 will retain some closer identity with the three natural sections of the Eastern Region. This Eastern Region has special complexities. The per capita library income from local sources in 1960 was $2.93, considerably above that of the Central and Western Regions. Here are located the greatest number of the state's most adequately supported large, medium-sized and small libraries. Here are great distances involved from the New Hampshire border to Cape Cod and the Islands! In the Eastern Region is concentrated 74% of the total population of the State (3,796,674 persons). Where is the point at which distances involved and population to be served result in dimishing returns in terms of regional library system services?

The Board and Division must at all times keep in proper perspective a statewide point of view. We are determined

to get on the library system road with sound regional programs which are geared to foster improved, extended, and more systematic local cooperative library efforts. The regional programs must consider the mobility of present day library users, and real needs of those users for access to greater and richer book resources. At the same time the regional programs must backstop and bolster up local libraries which are handicapped because of a shortage or even complete lack of professional personnel, inadequate physical facilities, and insufficient local funds. The financial aspects of Section 19C of the legislation should not mold any program wherein the special situation of one or a few municipalities is allowed to shape the whole plan or destiny of one or more regions. Regional systems should emerge with a full range of services rather than with a limited concept of these services.

(Continued from page 11)

ever, when the rest of the bill comes through we may begin to see some improvement down here in the Deep South of Massachusetts Library Service!"—2D Librarian

"The Mayor has informed the President of the Library Board and the Chief Librarian that payments made to the City from the State Treasurer would have to be held in reserve for expenditure in 1962. This is my understanding of the Mayor's opinion, although they may not be his exact words.

"We are therefore hopeful of receiving increased municipal funds in 1962 as a result of State Aid legislation." — 7C Chief Librarian

"Increased hours of library opening, (39 hours formerly—now 53 hour week); additional microfilming of newspapers." — 3C Librarian

"The Law has helped us show that certain standards are necessary for a good library. It has given us an excellent 'talking point' for the approval of a professional librarian in our next year's budget." — 2E Chairman of Trustees

"Discussions with government officials in ——— indicate that Section 19A of Chapter 760 has not only completely failed in its purpose but may have done serious damage in leading city appropriating authorities to believe the state is willing to assume part of the obligation for normal local library support hitherto borne without question by the city. Since it is not so stated, government officials do not recognize that the state funds are intended to supplement normal local appropriations.

"The peculiar stipulation that no money shall be received by a city or town failing to maintain the average appropriation for the four years immediately preceding is pointless, since this would in effect merely freeze municipal library appropriations rather than provide 'expanded, improved or more adequate public library service.'

"Is merely maintaining average of the past four years realistic or desirable? I earnestly suggest a more thoughtful approach to this situation by all agencies involved, with the objective of amending the law at the next session of the General Court so that it becomes an instrument of furthering rather than hindering in the development of Massachusetts Public Libraries. The proposed amendment should be carefully followed through its course in the legislature. If the final version fails to reflect the objectives of the sponsors, the correct wording should be insisted upon or our support should be withdrawn." — 7D Librarian

"We were able to purchase over 500 new books, and have rebound 100 for schools. We were able to hire the services of a trained librarian to catalogue them.

"The Trustees would not have asked for the increased library budget in Town Meeting, over the opposition of the Finance Board, except for the State Aid Law. The Finance Board members thought the monies from State Aid should go to the town but the town meeting members upheld our budget and voted the increase we requested." — 5A Librarian

"I shall quote below the special article that we put in the March warrant to assure the state aid money earmarked for

libraries would not go into the general fund. I think I should point out that in the early part of our town meeting I had moved that the town raise and appropriate the sum the trustees thought we needed to run the library without state aid. This was moved and voted under Article 2. Article 21 read as follows:

" 'To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 760 of the General Laws of 1960 and vote to turn over to the trustees of the Stevens Public Library for the use thereof, such funds as may be allocated to the Town under said chapter for the expansion of Library Services, or act in relation thereto.'

"After reading the motion, I explained briefly that the General Court had made this money available for towns and cities in the Commonwealth to expand Library Service to the communities applying for it and that our board of trustees urged the town meeting to approve this article. It was voted unanimously, and we received our grant in July." — 1C Trustee

"Because the grants-in-aid do not come out of new money, but are reimbursements from the state income tax receipts, our present Finance Committee has not believed that this additional money should be expended on additional library costs. We have believed that there would be nothing gained and much might be lost if we try to belabor the point as to intent of the law. The town has seldom turned down our budget increase requests. Theoretically at least, it might be considered that the grant-in-aid was helping to offset these increases.

"Our relationship with our town government is a friendly, understanding and cooperative one. If we sense the temper of the town aright, it is the town's feeling that it has a responsibility to support its library well and to do so without reference to any state aid program." — 4A Librarian

"More periodicals, book trucks, new editions of reference books, equipment, (adding machine, vertical steel file to make pamphlets more accessible to the public) and we expect to replace two tables and twelve chairs for the adult reading room.

"The trustees invited the chairman of the Finance Board to their February meeting, presented the facts to him, also a copy of the law and supplementary budget. The chairman, in turn, took this information to the Finance Board. The amount of the State Aid was then added to the library's original budget on the town warrant which was subsequently voted on at the annual town meeting." — 3D Librarian

"There are seven independent public libraries in the various villages of the Town of ————. One filed intentions to apply for state aid but received the application form just one week before it was due to be returned, insufficient time to gather the required information from the other libraries of the town, who were, with one exception, opposed to accepting state aid. Since this experience, ———— has initiated a series of joint board meetings with the other libraries, leading, we hope to a decision among all of us to apply for aid in 1962. If this decision is finally reached, we shall try to insert an article in the town meeting warrant to insure that the state funds are distributed to the libraries in addition to the usual town appropriation." — 3E President

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(Continued from page 8)

selectmen also. There may be a trustee here and there who feels so strongly in his convictions that he will not give ground in any sense. He may end up with a perfectly clear conscience because he had the courage of his convictions. But his stubbornness may have set back the cause of library advancement in his community.

Before any widespread judgment is made on state aid, shouldn't we live with it for a while, see it work, and be temperate in our efforts to make changes?

It all comes back to your public relations department. If you can sell good library service to your townsfolk they'll get you the wherewithall to build that service.

Keep your Yankee weather eye cocked in the direction of Town Hall and Beacon Hill. Let's not be excited over the storm warnings. It's the all-round climate that really counts.

(Continued from page 6)

There are means whereby we could improve our service to our local public, with a little imagination, greater co-operation in book buying on an area basis, more liberal rules for interlibrary loan, common stocks of periodicals, and numerous others. We do need more cash (I pass over this hastily) and we do have to sell ourselves to the public; not as community centers for "coke" parties and rug hooking or whatever else substitutes for an intellectual atmosphere. We must sell ourselves as genuine centers of learning. That is still our function, books are still our business. Planning and imagination are what we need more than hard cash. Such grants-in-aid too often become the substitutes for plans.

Now you can see what a fuddy-duddy I am. I reject the idea that centralized control cures all evils. Change is not necessarily progress, it is often just manic behavior intended to impress the public.

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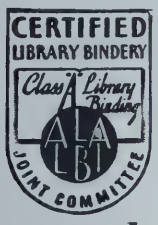

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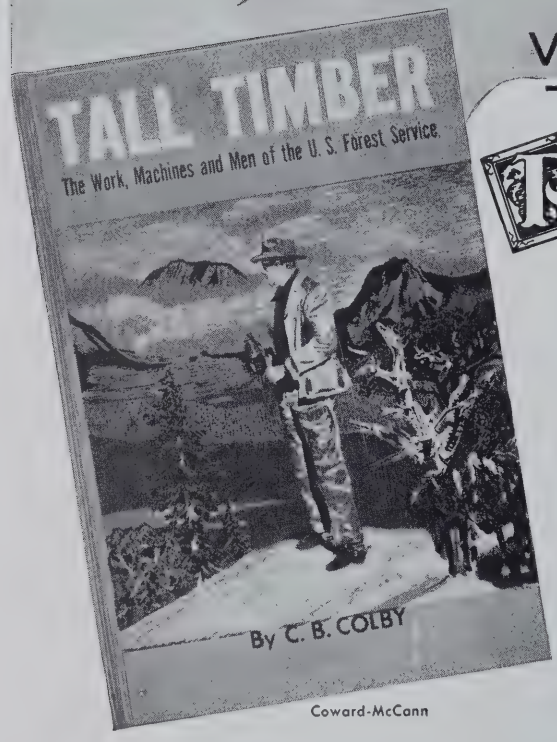

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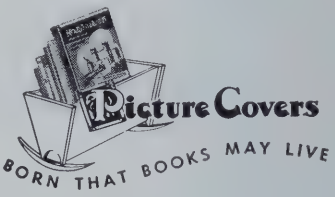

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April 7, 1961

Mr. William A. Waldron
22 Draper Road
Wayland, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Waldron:

Your telephone request of this afternoon that you be placed on our mailing list to receive the NEWS LETTER has just been referred to me. I am very sorry to tell you that limitations of staff and budget have made it necessary for us to keep our mailing list to an absolute minimum. At the present time we send a copy of the NEWS LETTER to each public library in the Commonwealth. In addition, copies are sent to a small number of trustees designated by the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association. It is our hope that the NEWS LETTER, which is received by each public library, will be read not only by the librarian but by members of the Board.

I hope that it will be possible for you to arrange to see the copy which is sent monthly to the Wayland Free Public Library. I also hope that sometime in the future we shall be able to increase our mailing list, as we can well understand the inconvenience of sharing the one copy which we can now distribute to each community.

Sincerely yours,

Marie T. Sullivan

Marie T. Sullivan
Public Library Specialist

MTS ENC

NEWS LETTER

DIRECTOR
V. Genevieve Galick

EDITORS
Alice Cahill
Marie Sullivan

REGIONAL OFFICES
Fall River
Greenfield
North Reading
Pittsfield

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF

MASSACHUSETTS

LIBRARY EXTENSION

SPECIAL EDITION

For: Librarians and Trustees of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

WHAT THE LIBRARY SERVICES ACT HAS DONE FOR MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts Division of Library Extension has been able to increase and improve its services to the following extent:

1. The Book Budget has MORE THAN DOUBLED

   - A 25% increase in Inter-Library Loan services
   - A 57% increase in Regional book services

2. A FOURTH Regional Library Center was inaugurated, making a total of 119 rural towns receiving supplementary book services via a regional bookmobile operation.

3. A NEWS LETTER is issued MONTHLY instead of irregularly two or three times a year, thus providing the ONLY professional library publication distributed free-of-charge to all public libraries in the 351 cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

4. Consultative and Advisory Services to Librarians and Trustees of our public libraries have MORE THAN DOUBLED.

DID YOU KNOW

- That the LSA grant is terminal, and limited to a five-year period? This serves to focus attention on the stimulative nature of the grant, and on State and local responsibility for continuing and improving the program of library service to rural areas.

- That the full state appropriation in any year for the Massachusetts Division of Library Extension cannot be used as a matching expenditure for the federal grant since the Division's services are available to and utilized by all public school and state and county institution libraries?

- That this is not a federal government "give-away" program? Massachusetts has to earn or match federal funds on a 56-44 ratio. For every $44 of federal money received, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must show that it is spending $56 state dollars in library service to rural areas.

- That for fiscal year 1957, Congress appropriated $2,050,000 for implementation of the Library Services Act? This state was eligible for a basic allotment of $40,000. Our State Plan was approved by the United States Commissioner of Education on January 15, 1957. On March 8, 1957, a check for $40,000, representing payment covering the federal share of our 1957 State Plan, was deposited with the State Treasurer and Receiver-General.

- That for fiscal year 1958, Congress appropriated $5,000,000 for the implementation of the LSA? This state's allotment was the basic $40,000 plus $38,487 or a total of $78,487 which was earned by a matching expenditure from state funds of $98,645 for the extension of public library service to rural areas.

- That for fiscal year 1959, Congress appropriated $6 million for the implementation of the LSA? This state's share was $91,577, but Massachusetts was unable to match the federal funds on the required 56-44 ratio. To earn the full allotment, the Division needed to show an estimated expenditure of $115,110 for the extension of public library service to rural areas. Without a sufficient state appropriation Massachusetts was able to qualify for only $78,000. The $13,577 of this state's share for which Massachusetts could not qualify will, under the terms of the Act, be put into a pool and reallotted to other states which can match, by state appropriation, an amount over and above their regular state share.

PROGRESS REPORT ON OUR NEW STATE REGIONAL LIBRARY CENTER SERVING THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF MASSACHUSETTS

FACTS AND FIGURES

From January 21,1958 through January 31, 1959, the Bookmobile was on the road 3 days a week, taking 4 weeks to complete a circuit of 46 bookmobile service points, including 22 public libraries, 13 schools, 11 stations.

Book service and loans - 98,663 total book circulation; 680 average daily circulation.

Reference service - 769 reference questions answered.

Number of days on the road - 145

Number of bookmobile stops - 648

Miles traveled - 13,729

Estimated cost - $25,000

WHY THIS CENTER WAS NEEDED

Small towns need, want and deserve GOOD library service just as much as the big cities. Unfortunately, in most towns of under 50,000, the tax base is not broad enough to provide the necessary funds. The variations in quantity, quality and cost of library service to each person in the Commonwealth is a serious weakness. For example, $3.00 per capita library support in a city or town of 50,000 will provide an operating budget of $150,000. Contrast this with the $3.00 per capita library support in a town of less than 10,000!

In northeastern Massachusetts, 23 out of 26 towns have less than 10,000 population. 12 of these towns have less than 3,000 people. 28 independent, local public libraries are operating in the 26-town area. $1.50 is the AVERAGE per capita support from LOCAL funds in an area where 23 of the 26 towns have less than 10,000 people. The SOLUTION to the problem lies in SUPPLEMENTARY AID from a government unit with a broader and more flexible tax base than the individual city or town.

The State Regional Library Center at North Reading was inaugurated in 1957 with a federal grant-in-aid program administered by the Massachusetts Division of Library Extension. According to the terms of Public Law 597, these federal funds are available only for a FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. The regional bookmobile service will end unless a way can be found to finance the operation.

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners has requested $25,000 in the 1959-1960 operating budget of the Massachusetts Division of Library Extension to carry on the regional bookmobile service from the State Regional Library Center at North Reading. This request has been disallowed in the Governor's Recommended Budget. Residents of the area are now being encouraged to tell their State Senators and Representatives why they wish this important and appreciated new library service to continue on a permanent basis.

Please return to: G. A. Waldron
22 Hope Road
Wayland, Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION

The following statements of policy were developed at the discussion tables during Pre-Conference Institute: "Blueprint for Action" sponsored by the American Library Trustee Association and the School of Library Science, Western Reserve University and held at the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio July 8-9, 1961. This material may be useful to you when examining the policy-making functions of your library board in relation to expanding services, program planning, relations with the community, budgeting, and legislation.

Service to residents outside the library's tax area

Work toward the ideal that all people are entitled to free library service.

It is recognized that the primary purpose is to provide this service to the residents of its own area.

In the spirit of cooperation, the library endeavors to extend this service to non-residents to the widest degree, but not to an extent that the residents are deprived of services or would be contributing for services they do not receive.

Because we accept the premise that only with joint action can most American libraries come up to the standards necessary to meet the needs of their constituencies, the Board adopts the policy of encouraging neighboring governments to provide realistic financing to be used for a library system. In the interim, until such a system can be achieved by contract or legislation, this library will provide free service to non-residents who own property or are employed within the tax area. It will also extend service to other non-residents on a fee basis.

Use of the building by groups

Library meeting rooms shall be open to civic, cultural, and educational groups which are non-political and non-sectarian in nature.

All meetings shall be open to the public.

The policy for use of the building shall correspond in all ways to the other policies for the library services.

The library's own programs shall have priority for the use of the building.

Application for a meeting or a series of meetings is subject to the approval of the board.

Each applicant will agree to leave the library harmless of any liability by reason of the meeting and defray any resulting expense.

The Board shall draw up a set of rules and regulations for the use of the library building. These rules shall be available to any organization.

Location of branches and bookmobile stops

Library services shall be extended equally to all persons within the legal service area when there is demonstrated present and future need, through the establishment of branch or bookmobile service.

Specific decisions about the manner of extending services and the location of outlets shall be made on the basis of:

1. An initial community survey to determine such factors as transportation facilities, building patterns, economic patterns, population trends, physical and geographic features of the community;

2. The results of experiments with rented quarters and trial bookmobile stops.

Plans for extending services should begin with an evaluation of the system's ability to provide further services of a high quality and whether a broader base of financial support should be sought through wider cooperative arrangements.

Service to children and young adults

The library shall maintain separate collections of good quality books and other materials for children and for young people, including reference works especially written for these age groups.

The library will encourage good reading habits by establishing story hours for children, providing stimulating displays and visual aids, and furnishing instruction in the use of the library and its materials.

The library will employ, where possible, personnel qualified in services to children and to young people.

Service to groups and organizations

The Library, through cooperation with all community agencies and organizations, will provide materials, information, and services. Every effort will be made to stimulate the interest of all groups through the use of exhibits, clinics, discussion leadership, public relations, and publicity to insure maximum use of facilities and materials available.

Service to business, industries, and government

This library will try to maintain a balance in its services to its public. Working from this general policy, we will endeavor to serve industry, business, and government with informational material within the limitations of our budget and personnel.

Audio-visual and other non-book materials

The acquisition and circulation of audio-visual and other non-book materials are properly to be considered as a part of library function. Such materials include motion pictures, filmstrips, slides, microfilm, art reproductions, and recordings.

There shall be specific budget allocations for such materials.

Standards shall be adopted for the selection of such materials.

It is desirable for the library to cooperate with other agencies in the community in the selection and use of such materials.

Circulation rules may be adapted to the type of material.

The library may find it necessary to provide mechanical equipment for the use of such materials, and may restrict the use of such equipment.

Relations with schools

The public library, although an independent and responsible body, should function as a cooperative agency in the total or over-all educational program.

A close working relationship should be established between the public library and the school system, using the needs of the students as a guide adapted to the local situation.

Cooperation with other libraries

The Board will accept the responsibility of fostering in every way possible cooperative methods with all other libraries (including but not limited to those in different political subdivisions, private and special libraries and libraries in schools and other educational instutitions) to the end that every individual in the community may have access to the widest possible library resources.

Budget - Construction, scope, presentation

It is the policy of this Board of Trustees in regard to the Budget, that the Budget Committee of the Board, together with the librarian, prepare a Budget. After study by the Board, it is advisable that contact be made with the proper officials, prior to the actual presentation and approval, the presentation to be made by members of the Board of Trustees and the Librarian.

Publicity

The library seeks publicity to sell the library services to all the people.

We need to encourage people to come to the library.

Project the idea as a cultural center and as a beehive of activity.

The program should include "creative publicity" in the form of library-sponsored events, such as film programs and local history panel discussions, which form the basis for news features.

News features would also be released to newspapers and radio on the development of the library operation, such as the increase in numbers of patrons, circulation figures, and reference.

Among factors to be taken into consideration are that people like to participate. Part of publicity would include conscious efforts to stimulate participation of citizens. Build up the library as a service agency to all community groups. Use of posters, exhibits, directional signs, radio programs; spot announcements, programs in which citizen participates with librarian in book discussion.

Principles to keep in mind:

1. Avoid exaggeration.

2. Emphasis on accuracy.

3. No personal publicity.

4. Never create demand that cannot be satisfied.

5. Publicity should be continuous and should conform to the general policy, which is to sell the library to all the people.

Selection of Staff

The board shall select a head librarian with due consideration of the personal, educational, and physical qualifications required by the position.

No discrimination or favoritism shall be shown because of race, sex, creed, color, or political affiliation.

The head librarian shall have full charge of the staff under the adopted board policies.

Handling of staff grievances

Every employee shall have the privilege of submitting his grievance to the director of the library.

If employee is not satisfied with settlement, he shall have the privilege of submitting the written statement to the Board of Trustees through the director.

Every employee shall have the right to appear before the Board in person.

Decision of the Board is final.

Grievances shall be settled promptly by the director and/or the Board.

All grievances which are submitted to the Board shall be considered by the Board when meeting in regular session or committee of the whole.

Library sponsorship of activities

In order to meet the cultural and informational needs of the community and to stimulate the use of library materials for the enlightenment of people of all ages: The library will actively promote group discussions and lectures and will

give program planning assistance to community organizations to the fullest extent possible of personnel and library resources. Requests for program sponsorship will be evaluated by the librarian and Board of Trustees will made final decision for acceptance in accordance with Library Bill of Rights.

Friends of the library

The Board encourages the organization of such a group to assist the Board in:

1. Enlisting community interest in the library.
2. Presenting the needs of the library to the community.
3. Facilitating communication between the library and the community.
4. Getting financial support from the community when necessary.
5. Interesting young people in library service as a career.

This "Friends of the Library" shall be an independent, autonomous group, supported but not controlled by the Board of Trustees. Liaison between the Board and the Friends shall be effected by the appointment of a Library staff member who will attend "Friends" meetings and report to the Board through the Library Director. For maximum effectiveness, it is desirable that the "Friends" have a membership with as broad a base in the community as possible. This "Friends of the Library" organization shall have no part in policy-making for the library, since this is a function solely of the Board of Trustees.

Citizen cooperation in bond issues

The Library Board shall seek well organized and effective citizen support from all areas of community.

Handling of citizen complaints

It is assumed by the Board of Trustees that the majority of citizens' complaints have been anticipated or answered by other sections of policy statement. In other cases unforeseen, the Board shall determine whether the complaints are administrative or pertain to policy decisions, and act accordingly.

Acceptance of free materials

The library shall accept the free materials which the director feels fit within the stated purposes of the library.

The rules governing acceptance shall be those that apply to the acquisition of all other library materials.

The use or disposal of these free materials shall be at the discretion of the director. (In cases of indecision or pressure the director may consult with the Board.)

Acceptance of memorial gifts

Memorial gifts shall be accepted or rejected by the Board of Trustees on the basis of their suitability to the library's purposes and needs. The librarian shall present his evaluation of such gifts.

* * * * * *

October, 1961
Material prepared and distributed by
Massachusetts Division of Library Extension
200 Newbury Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Policy Statement

for

The American Library Trustee Association

* * * * * *

AMERICA'S FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL IS ON THREE FRONTS: MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND IDEOLOGICAL. IDEAS ARE AS IMPORTANT IN THE CURRENT DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS MISSILES. THE AMERICAN LIBRARY TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES THAT PUBLIC LIBRARIES STAND AT THE THIRD FRONT WHERE THE BATTLE IS BEING FOUGHT FOR MEN'S MINDS AND LOYALTIES.

CHARGED BY LAW WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICY IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WE PROPOSE TO ARM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR PUBLIC LIBRARIES WITH GREATER KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND IDEOLOGICAL FORCES LINED UP ON BOTH SIDES OF OUR BATTLELINE BETWEEN FREEDOM AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM.

THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS LEADER OF THE FREE NATIONS, DETERMINED TO REMAIN FREE AND TO HELP OBTAIN FREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. THE AMERICAN LIBRARY TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION WILL PLACE INCREASED EMPHASIS ON THE READING AND DISCUSSION OF BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, AND THE USE OF VISUAL AND AUDIO AIDS, FOR A GREATER KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF WORLD AFFAIRS AND WORLD PEOPLE.

WE WILL SPONSOR PROJECTS WHICH ENCOURAGE USE OF THE BASIC INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO MAKE US A NATION MORE INFORMED AND MORE UNDERSTANDING.

WE WILL URGE ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN WITH US IN USING THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AS AN INSTITUTION THAT HAS A DISTINCTIVE AND BASIC CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE IN MAN'S DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS FREEDOM.

The MOTION that this policy statement be accepted by the membership of the American Library Trustee Association is respectfully made by the FACTS FOR FREEDOM library committee:

Mrs. George R. Wallace	Massachusetts
Mrs. Thomas McAllister	Michigan
Mrs. Hugh McNamer	Montana
Miss Miriam E. McNally	Colorado
Mrs. Glenn Balch, Chairman	Idaho

Adopted by
The American Library Trustee Association
at General Membership Meeting
Cleveland, Ohio
July 10, 1961

Prepared and distributed by
The Division of Library Extension
200 Newbury Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

November, 1961

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, INC.

July 25, 1963

Miss Marjorie Ferris
Wayland Free Public Library
Wayland, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Ferris:

Awaiting action in the Legislature, and presently pending before the Ways and Means Committee, is a bill S. 537 which the Massachusetts Library Association wishes to bring to your attention. It has to do with correcting a legislative provision of 1960 that has turned out to be at complete variance with the original legislative proposal of that year.

The inclosed statement summarizes the existing situation. In addition there is being sent to you under separate cover a Memorandum on the Direct-Grant-in-Aid for Public Library Service under the 1960 State-Aid-to Libraries Legislation and also a set of Questions and Answers on Senate No. 537.

If enacted into law S. 537 will not only confirm the eligibility of your community for a grant-in-aid for your public library or libraries in an amount at 25¢ per capita of population. It will provide also, as intended by the original legislative proposal of 1960, that this grant-in-aid will come as new money to your community from the General Fund of the Commonwealth rather than be earmarked as at present for creaming from the top of the income tax proceeds, money which your community would have received any way.

The enactment of S. 537 into law will obviously be to the advantage of most of the individual cities and towns of the Commonwealth. If this is so for your community, will you get into touch with your senator and your representative or representatives in the General Court, urging their support of S. 537 as being in the interest of your city or town?

Respectfully,

Frank P. Taplin

President, Massachusetts Library Association
c/o City Library Association
Springfield, Massachusetts

P.S. Also, if you think it will be helpful, will you suggest to your Mayor or to the Chairman of your Selectmen that it might be helpful if he too were to get into touch with your representatives in the General Court and indicate to them his hope as well for the enactment of S.537?

1963

CITY OR TOWN

Wayland

STATE AID FOR LIBRARY PURPOSES AT PRESENT

From the Proceeds of the Income Tax

- for library purposes

$ 2,611

STATE AID IF S.537 IS ENACTED INTO LAW

From the General Fund of the Commonwealth

- for library purposes

$ 2,611

From the Proceeds of the Income Tax

- for unrestricted use by your community

$ 1,171.17

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COURT REPRESENTING YOUR COMMUNITY

Sen. Charles W. Olson, 59 West Union Street, Ashland
Rep. James DeNormandie, Trapelo Road, Lincoln

It will help also to make the position of your community known by writing as well to the Hon. William D. Fleming, Chairman of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and to the Hon. John J. Toomey, Chairman of House Ways and Means Committee, addressing them at the State House, Boston.

Massachusetts Library Association

STATEMENT ON SENATE 537

The state-aid-to-public-libraries legislation of 1960 was intended to be helpful to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, but has so far - in one of its two major aspects - actually been the reverse.

The 1960 legislation was meant to do two things: (1) to bring all public libraries more nearly up to acceptable standards, and in doing so - hopefully - to bring at least a little relief from the pressure on local property taxes, by means of grants-in-aid from the State; and (2) to create a comprehensive system of regional library service.

The part that has turned out to be the reverse of what was intended is the first of the two mentioned above - that having to do with the grants-in-aid part of the legislation.

Because of a compromise effected at the instance of the Senate in 1960, the financing of the grant-in-aid part of the Act was shifted from the General Fund, where it was placed in the original legislative proposal and passed by the House, and was placed instead on the proceeds of the income tax. This meant that in the name of library aid cities and towns would simply get income tax money that they would have received anyway.

That was bad enough. But what made it worse was that the distribution of the income tax money, for so-called library aid, was in the process put on a per capita basis. As a result at least 61 cities and towns actually receive less from the proceeds of the income tax than if the legislation had never been enacted. Because of the different effects of the pertinent formulas Boston loses; Worcester loses; Springfield and Holyoke and Longmeadow and Greenfield lose; Lynn and Lawrence and Salem and Swampscott and Manchester and Gloucester lose; Belmont, Brookline, Cambridge, Everett, Hull, Watertown, Milton, Newton, and Wellesley lose; Quincy and Plymouth lose; Barnstable, Falmouth, Harwich, Wareham lose; so likewise do Nantucket and Tisbury, and approximately 30 other cities and towns spread throughout the Commonwealth. The amounts lost by the 61 cities and towns just mentioned are listed on the attached sheets.

To put this legislation straight, to help libraries, to help the cities and towns, the Massachusetts Library Association urges the enactment of SENATE 537, placing the grant-in-aid back on the General Fund of the Commonwealth.

July 10, 1963

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1965

Copy of letter
sent to each member
of the Legislature.

Awaiting action at the hands of the Ways and Means Committee is a bill S.537 which the Massachusetts Library Association wishes to bring to your attention. It has to do with correcting a legislative provision of 1960 that has turned out to be at complete variance with the original legislative proposal of that year.

The inclosed statement summarizes the existing situation. In addition our Legislative Committee is sending to you under separate cover a Memorandum on the Direct-Grant-in-Aid for Public Library Service under the 1960 State-Aid-to-Libraries Legislation and also a set of Questions and Answers on Senate No. 537.

The Massachusetts Library Association commends to your attention the corrective nature of S.537 and warmly urges your support in favor of its enactment.

Respectfully,

President, Massachusetts
Library Association
c/o City Library Association
Springfield, Massachusetts

Memorandum on

The Direct-Grant-in-Aid for Public Library Service

Under the 1960 State-Aid-to-Libraries Legislation

(Acts of 1960, Chapter 760, Sections 19A and 19B)

NOTE

This memorandum has to do only with the direct-grant-in-aid part of the legislation (Sects. 19A and 19B), and the desirability of amending the legislative provisions for the financing thereof.

The regional-library-program part of the legislation (Sects. 19C and 19D) is quite another matter, involving administrative determinations on the part of the Board of Library Commissioners rather than amendment of the legislation. This part of the legislation is in process of administrative evolution.

This memorandum was prepared
on behalf of the Legislative Committee of the
Massachusetts Library Association

July 15, 1963

THE PROBLEM

The legislative proposal for state-aid-to-libraries, as it was entered into the General Court in the original instance in 1960, was in two parts:

(1) a proposal for direct-grants-in-aid for individual public libraries that meet minimum qualifications (Sects. 19A and 19B);

(2) a proposal for a comprehensive regional-library-program to cover the entire Commonwealth (Sects. 19C and 19D).

The proposals as presented to the Legislature provided that the necessary funds should come from the General Fund of the Commonwealth for both of the parts as listed above.

The House so enacted the legislation. The Senate, on the other hand, while favorably disposed to the intent of the proposed legislation, acquiesced in the wishes of its leadership not to have the cost fall as a charge entirely on the General Fund. In conference the following compromise was reached:

(1) the direct-grants-in-aid (Sects. 19A and 19B), being for the individual cities and towns, would be distributed to the cities and towns from the proceeds of the income tax;

(2) the regional-library-systems (Sects. 19C and 19D), being for regional programs on a state-wide basis, would be financed by appropriation from the General Fund of the Commonwealth.

This was accomplished by inserting into the original proposal for Section A the words which are underlined below:

> "Section 19A. The state treasurer shall annually, on or before July first, pay from the proceeds of the taxation on incomes under chapter sixty-two to each city or town ... a sum of money for its free public library or libraries ..."

The text of Section C was left without change as it was passed by the House.

The net effect of this compromise has been that only the financing of the regional-library-programs under Sects. 19C and 19D (since this financing alone comes from the General Fund) has brought genuine state-aid-to-libraries in the form of new monies from the state.

The provisions of Sects. 19A and 19B (under the Senate's proposal for financing the direct-grants-in-aid for individual public libraries) do not constitute state-aid-to-libraries at all. The monies that they bring to the cities and towns are not even new monies. They are merely monies creamed from the top of the proceeds of the income tax that the cities and towns would have received any way.

Further, as a result of the Senate's compromise proposal, there are 61 from the total of 340 eligible cities and towns in the Commonwealth which actually receive less from the proceeds of the income tax than if the legislation had never been enacted. This is because the normal base for the distribution of the proceeds of the income tax is the 1945 assessed valuations of the cities and towns, while the base for the distribution of the direct-grants-in-aid-to-libraries is the population of the cities and towns.

The City of Boston, for instance, loses $92,611 annually by this arrangement, receiving $174,299 as compared with the $266,910 it would have had from the proceeds of the income tax if Section 19A of the state-aid-to-libraries legislation had not been enacted in 1960.

In the same plight as Boston are 60 other cities and towns in the Commonwealth:

Barnstable	Holyoke	Quincy
Belmont	Hopedale	Rockport
Brewster	Hull	Russell
Brookline	Lawrence	Salem
Buckland	Longmeadow	Sandwich
Cambridge	Lynn	Shelburne
Carver	Manchester	Sherborn
Chelsea	Marblehead	Springfield
Cohasset	Marion	Stockbridge
Deerfield	Melrose	Swampscott
Dover	Milton	Tisbury
Duxbury	Montague	Walpole
Edgartown	Montgomery	Wareham
Everett	Nahant	Watertown
Falmouth	Nantucket	Wellesley
Gloucester	Newton	Wenham
Great Barrington	Oak Bluffs	Weston
Greenfield	Orleans	Winchester
Harwich	Plymouth	Worcester
Hatfield	Provincetown	Worthington

Attached is a compilation showing (1) the amount that can be received by these cities and towns under the state-aid-to-libraries legislation as it stands at present and (2) the amount that could have been received otherwise, if no state-aid legislation had been enacted.

AN APPROACH TO A SOLUTION

The simplest approach to a solution of the problem is to change the source of funds for the direct-grants-in-aid from the proceeds of the income tax and have them come instead from the General Fund of the Commonwealth.

Such a change would be to revert to the original legislative intent, as the House proposed to finance it in 1960, but which was changed in conference in 1960 to meet the wishes of the Senate.

It can be accomplished simply by striking out the words "proceeds of the taxation on incomes under chapter sixty-two" from Section 19A of the legislation as finally enacted in 1960 and inserting in place thereof the words "general fund." The resulting change would leave the wording of Section 19A as follows:

> Section 19A. The state treasurer shall annually on or before July first, pay from the general fund to each city or town certified by the board of library commissioners to have met certain minimum standards of free public library service established by said board a sum of money for its free public library or libraries which shall be determined as follows ...

Thus the direct-grants-in-aid would become genuine state-aid from the state to and for the libraries. And for the cities and towns these direct-grants-in-aid would be new monies, not an ear-marking for library purposes of monies from the proceeds of the income tax that they would have received any way and unearmarked.

AN ATTEMPT TO AMEND THE LEGISLATION IN ANOTHER RESPECT WAS MADE UNSUCCESSFULLY IN 1962

The wording of Section 19A has up to the present required the cities and towns to resolve the problem as to how the monies received as direct-grants-in-aid are to be used once they have been received. The decision has lain between

(1) whether the monies are to be used as new monies for their local public library service and in addition to the local appropriations as already made earlier in each year

or (2) whether they are to be used as credits to offset in part the local appropriations as already made.

Some cities and towns have resolved the situation in one way, some in the other. In actual practice many public libraries have received the direct-grants-in-aid to their communities as new monies, quite in addition to the regular local appropriation. But in many other communities the libraries have not received any benefit at all by way of new or additional monies.

As a result of the protests from many local boards of library trustees that their libraries were not receiving the state-aid which the legislation was intended to produce, there was entered into the 1962 session of the General Court, a proposal (HOUSE 366) for an amendment of Section 19A, which read as follows:

> Section 19A of chapter 78 of the General Laws, inserted by section 1 of chapter 760 of the acts of 1960, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: -- Any amount received from the state pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be deposited with the treasurer of such city or town and held as a separate account, and expended by the library trustees of said city or town without further appropriation, notwithstanding the provisions of section fifty-three of chapter forty-four.

For obvious reasons this proposal was vigorously opposed by the many members of the Legislature who were mayors or selectmen, as well as by organizations such as the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association. It was stated pretty generally that their opposition did not mean that they were anti-libraries or anti-state-aid-to-libraries. Rather they were fighting what they believed was in principle state interference in the local administration of funds (in this instance income tax receipts) that their communities would otherwise have received any way without any earmarking of the funds as to use. A dangerous precedent was being proposed. The proposal eventually became subject to considerable parliamentary jockeying, and finally was left to die in conference between the two houses.

Thus a bad taste was left in many mouths by what turned out to have been an untimely and ill-considered approach to amending Section 19A of the legislation.

It is clear that if the legislation is to be amended it must be approached in quite different fashion and from quite a different point of view.

SUGGESTED APPROACH TO THE AMENDMENT OF SECTION 19A OF THE LEGISLATION

The following approach is suggested:

1. Forget about attempting to get the Section 19A monies for libraries "without further appropriation" -- the abortive attempt in this direction in 1962 proved the futility of such an approach.

2. Instead amend Section 19A to permit the financial support to be obtained <u>not from the proceeds of the taxation on incomes</u> but <u>instead from the general fund</u>, as proposed in the original instance in 1960 -- this to be accomplished simply by striking out the words "proceeds of the taxation on incomes under chapter sixty-two" as they stand at present in Section 19A of the legislation and inserting in place thereof the words "general fund."

3. Such an approach can be expected to receive relatively wide support from mayors and selectmen in general, inasmuch as

   (a) it will remove any danger of state interference in the local administration of funds received from the state -- as was charged of the 1962 attempt to amend the legislation

   (b) instead it will permit new monies to come from the state to the cities and towns for the purposes of Section 19A, as opposed to creaming from the top of monies that the cities and towns would otherwise receive any way, thus leaving the proceeds of the income tax to the local communities without earmarking.

4. This approach can be expected to receive wide support also from library trustees throughout the Commonwealth, since it will bring to each city and town genuine state-aid-to-libraries by reverting to the original legislative proposal of 1960.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON SENATE NO. 537

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PROVISION OF STATE AID TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 19A of chapter 78 of the General Laws, inserted by section 1 of chapter 760 of the acts of 1960, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 2 and 3, the words "proceeds of the taxation on incomes under chapter sixty-two" and inserting in place thereof the words: - general fund.

Prepared on behalf of the Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Library Association

July 15, 1963

1. What is the Purpose of This Legislation?

- By the State Aid to Libraries Act passed on 1960 (Chapter 760, Acts of 1960) the Commonwealth of Massachusetts undertook to contribute toward the support of library service maintained by its cities and towns. The contribution of the state was in the form of a grant-in-aid made directly to those cities or towns the public libraries of which met certain minimum standards.

- The intent of the legislation, as proposed and as originally passed in the lower house of the Legislature, was that the $1,300,000 needed for the purpose of the grant should come from the general revenue of the Commonwealth. As the Act was finally passed, however, the financing of the grant-in-aid was to come from those proceeds of the state income tax that are distributed to the cities and towns, in any case. The result, in brief, was that the cities and towns have not received new money for the support of their public libraries, and - as shown in this series of questions and answers - many of them have actually lost money through the present operation of the Act.

- SENATE NO. 537 would correct these faults in the State Aid to Libraries Act by providing explicitly that the funds to be used for the grant-in-aid shall come, not from the proceeds of the income tax, but from the General Fund of the Commonwealth.

2. Who is the Proponent of the Legislation?

- SENATE NO 537 was introduced into the Genral Court by Senator Oliver F. Ames of Boston, on petition of Honorable John F. Collins, Mayor of Boston.

3. Who are the Other Chief Supporters of It?

- Although SENATE NO. 537 was introduced on the petition of the Mayor of Boston, it is of very great interest to all who are charged with responsibility for the maintenance and operation of public libraries in the cities and towns of the Commonwealth. Supporting the legislation, therefore, as parties immediately affected by its provisions, are the Board of Library Commissioners of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Library Association.

- The Board of Library Commissioners is composed of five citizens appointed by the Governor for staggered terms of five years each; members are unpaid and serve in a capacity similar to that of a board of directors, or of trustees, establishing policies for the Division of Library Extension of the State Department of Education and supervising the work and activities of that agency.

- The Massachusetts Library Association is the organization that represents the professional librarians of the state. It was on the petition of the Massachusetts Library Association (supported by the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association) that the original bill for state aid to the public libraries was introduced in the Genral Court in 1960.

4. What Earlier Legislation does SENATE NO. 537 Seek to Amend?

- In the fall of 1960 the General Court enacted, and the Governor approved, Chapter 760 of the Acts of 1960, "An Act Providing State Aid for Free Public Libraries".

- The purposes of that legislation were: first, to bring sub-standard public libraries of the state up to standard; second, to make the Commonwealth a cooperating partner in the support of the state's public libraries and thus to help relieve the burden of the local property tax; and third, to make library resources accessible to all citizens of Massachusetts through the efficient and economical device of regional library systems.

5. What Part of the State Aid to Libraries Act Does This Legislation Seek to Amend?

- SENATE NO. 537 would amend Section 19A of the State Aid to Libraries Act. (Chapter 760 of the Acts of 1960). This section provides for direct grants-in-aid for individual public libraries that meet minimum qualifications.

- The direct grant-in-aid is allocated to cities and towns on the basis of 25 cents per capita of the population. There are approximately 5,200,000 people in the entire state; assuming that all cities and towns qualify for the grant (some may not), the total amount payable for this purpose is in the order of $1,300,000 annually. (Population of 5,200,000 x per capita grant of 25¢.) The amount expended for the purpose in 1962 was $1,229,992.95; in 1963, $1,242,737.86.

- SENATE NO. 537 does not affect those sections of the State Aid to Libraries Act which provide for the creation and operation of regional library systems to cover the entire Commonwealth. In fact, the bill has no effect on any portion of the Act excepting Section 19A.

6. How Did the General Court in 1960 Change the Intent of the Legislation as Originally Presented?

- The original proposals for state aid provided that funds for both of the library programs authorized by the Act - the direct-grant-in-aid program and the program for regional library systems - would come from the General Fund of Commonwealth.

- The House passed the original bill with such a provision. The Senate, while favorably disposed to the intent of the legislation, was not willing at that time to have the cost of both library programs fall as a charge on the General Fund. By compromise between the two branches it was provided that the cost of the regional library program was to come from the General Fund of the Commonwealth, but that the cost of the direct-grant-in-aid was to come from the proceeds of the state income tax.

7. How Has the Existing Method of Financing the Direct Grant-in-Aid Been in Conflict with the Basic Intent of the State Aid to Libraries Act?

- By financing the grant-in-aid from the proceeds of the income tax the Commonwealth is giving only the appearance of providing increased financial support to further the purposes of the grant-in-aid program, namely, raising standards of public library service and alleviating local tax burdens. What the cities and towns now receive in the name of a grant-in-aid for public libraries is money which would come to them in any case as a distribution from income tax proceeds; it is not "new" money at all.

- Income tax preceeds not earmarked for special purposes are distributed to the cities and towns upon the basis of the property valuations of the respective cities and towns as determined by the Commonwealth in 1945. By contrast, income tax proceeds earmarked for support of public libraries are distributed upon a per capita basis. To take $1,300,000 (as in 1962-63) out of the former category and distribute it on a per capita basis, allegedly for the support of public libraries, changes the formula for the distribution but adds nothing at all to the Commonwealth's share in the cost of public library service.

- The preamble to the 1960 legislation recited that its purpose was "to immediately provide state aid to the public libraries of the Commonwealth". Insofar as the direct-grant-in-aid is concerned, this expression of purpose is wholly contradicted by the existing method of financing the grants. No aid was provided by this means in the state fiscal year 1960-1961 and no aid has been provided by it since in either 1961-62 or 1962-63.

- Use of income tax proceeds to finance the direct-grant-in-aid runs counter to a basic principle of state aid to local services. Usually, when a state seeks to stimulate cities and towns to raise standards of public service, it rewards, in a sense, those municipalities that conform to standards which it sets and withholds funds from those municipalities which do not meet the standards.

- In the present case, the reward is non-existent. And, since the Commonwealth requires the cities and towns to meet minimum standards of library service as a condition of eligibility to receive the grant, it is in the position of doubly penalizing municipalities that do not conform to the minimum standards. (Not only do these cities and towns fail to receive a share of the new revenue which ought to be provided for the grant, but they lose funds which would have been theirs if the income tax proceeds had been distributed in the regular way.)

8. What Aid has been Given to the Cities and Towns So Far Under the State Aid to Libraries Act?

- The original intent of the legislation was to do two things - (1) to assist every city and town to render adequate library service, and (2) to create a new state-wide structure of regional library service. Both purposes are vitally important; one complements the other. Without strong local libraries there can be no approximation of equal educational opportunity in Massachusetts; without the new structure of regional service it will be impossible to make efficient and economical use of the coordinated resources of the state's public libraries for the benefit of every citizen.

- The regional library program is gradually getting under way, but the direct grant-in-aid program, as presently financed, has proved to be a disappointment and a delusion. Up to now, little tangible benefit has been derived by any municipality of the state or by any local public library of the state under the legislation that was passed so hopefully in the fall of 1960.

9. Has the Existing Method of Financing State Aid to Public Libraries been Positively Disadvantageous to Cities and Towns?

- Yes, some 61 cities and towns are actually receiving less money from the proceeds of the income tax now, in consequence of the passage of the State Aid to Libraries Act, than they would be receiving if the Act had not been passed at all.

- This happens because regular income proceeds are distributed on the basis of property valuations (as of 1945) while that part of the income tax proceeds earmarked for library aid is distributed to the cities and towns on the basis of population. Hence, any city or town that would fare better on the valuations basis than it would on the population (or per capita) basis loses by the change in the basis of distribution.

10. Have there been Cases of Serious loss to Cities and Towns in Consequence of the State Aid to Libraries Act?

- Yes, The most conspicuous and most flagrant is that which is suffered by the City of Boston. The ratio between Boston's taxable valuations in 1945 and the total valuations of all of the cities and towns of the state was about one-fifth (20.7 per cent). The ratio between Boston's 1960 population and that of all the cities and towns of the state is a little less than one-seventh (13.5 per cent).

- If the $1,242,737 of income tax proceeds for state-aid-to-libraries in the fiscal year 1962-63 had been distributed on the regular or property-valuations basis, Boston would have received $266,910. Because in 1962-63 the Commonwealth earmarked $1,242,737 of income tax proceeds and called it state-aid-to-libraries and distributed it to the cities and towns on a per-capita-of-population basis, Boston actually received $174,299. The loss has been something over $92,000.

- Not only Boston has suffered substantial loss. It appears that 60 cities out of our total of 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth have likewise received less under this "state aid" than if the state-aid legislation had never been enacted.

- Attached at the end is a compilation listing the 61 cities and towns losing money because of the enactment of the legislation in the form in which it now stands. This compilation shows (1) the current amount that can be received by the cities and towns under the state-aid-to-libraries legislation as it stands at present and (2) the amount that could have been received otherwise if no state-aid legislation had been enacted.

11. How Many Cities and Towns have Actually Received Increased Support for their Public Libraries as a Result of the State Aid to Libraries Act?

- Only 81 city and town libraries reported in 1962 that there had been an increase in municipal appropriations for public library service that had come as a result of the stimulation of the State Aid to Libraries Act - only 81 out of 351 cities and towns.

12. How has the Present Method of Financing the Direct Grant-in-Aid done a Disservice to the Developing Movement for Improved Library Service in Massachusetts?

- The present method of utilizing income tax proceeds in lieu of general revenue of the Commonwealth does a disservice to the developing movement for improved library service in Massachusetts.

- It confuses the financing of the state library aid program by tieing it in with the complexities and inconsistencies that have grown up over the years in respect to the distribution of income tax proceeds.

- The present method of financing the direct-grant-in-aid irritates city and town officials and causes potential division between city and town officials and those responsible for public libraries inasmuch as the city or town may be disadvantaged by the method of distribution of the grant-in-aid funds.

13. How much Will it Cost the Commonwealth to Finance the Direct Grant-in-Aid in the Way Originally Intended?

- At the per capita rate of 25 cents, as provided by the State Aid to Libraries Act, it will cost a maximum of $1,300,000. This represents only 8 per cent of what the state's cities and towns spent last year for public library service, but even so it is badly needed.

14. How Would the Payment of a Genuine Grant-in-Aid Improve Library Service in Massachusetts?

- It would provide an element of financial support for individual public libraries which they could apply to urgent needs for library materials and trained personnel.

15. Is the Grant-in-Aid Required to be Spent Wholly on Improvement of Library Service?

- If a city or town is already spending at least $3.00 per capita for library support, and otherwise meets the standards established in the Act, it has an option: if it chooses to do so, it can apply all, or a part, of the grant toward further improvement of its library service; or it can apply all, or a part, toward the on-going support of its public library service. In the latter case, the grant serves to reduce somewhat the local property tax burden.

- Cities and towns that provide reasonable support for public library service deserve the right to apply the grant-in-aid toward the reduction of the local property tax burden; they will, however, be more disposed than they would be otherwise to spend some or all of the grant-in-aid on further improvement of library service, and will be better able to do so.

16. Why is it Particularly Important Now for the Commonwealth to Provide a Stimulus for the Improved Support of Good Public Library Service?

- A great many public libraries of Massachusetts are currently doing an inadequate job, as measured by reasonable standards of modern library service. Many of the municipalities are simply too small to support a good library. Others lack the resources to provide adequate library service. As a consequence, the people of cities and towns representing well over half the population of Massachusetts are not getting adequate library service. A genuine grant-in-aid will help the cities and towns to provide better library service. It will help also to reduce gross inequalities in library service as between individual cities and towns.

- Young people of high school and college age are making up an increasingly large proportion of the state's population. Public libraries everywhere are being over-run by the pressure of students for library materials. What is really needed is a whole new appreciation of the extent of the rising tide of student use of public libraries and a truly proportionate effort by the cities and towns, and by the Commonwealth, to meet it. A genuine grant-in-aid program such as will become effective by passage of SENATE 537, will be at least a modest help in this direction.

17. In Summary, What are the Reasons Why the Present Method of Financing the Direct Grant-in-Aid Should be Changed from Using Proceeds of the State Income Tax to Using the General Fund of the Commonwealth?

- The Commonwealth has recognized that it has a responsibility for assisting the cities and towns - to a minor degree, at least - in the support of public library service. In chapter 760 of the Acts of 1960 it made provision for a direct-grant-in-aid in a maximum amount of 25 cents per capita of the population of the respective cities and towns. But, by meeting the relatively modest cost of the grant-in-aid out of state income tax proceeds that are distributed as a matter of course to the cities and towns, the Commonwealth has not contributed a single penny to the grant-in-aid program.

- As a gesture of willingness to assist in the support of public library service or, secondarily, to help relieve the burden of the local property tax, Section 19A is now, and has been for over two years, meaningless.

- The present method of financing the direct grant-in-aid, instead of helping cities and towns, has actually left many of them worse off than before the State Aid to Libraries Act was passed, by causing these municipalities to receive less money from the regular distribution of income tax proceeds than they would receive normally.

- The present method of financing the direct grant-in-aid confuses the whole matter of state aid to public libraries and tends to divide city and town fiscal authorities and those municipal officers and boards responsible for the maintenance of public service.

- A true grant-in-aid program would stimulate cities and towns to improve library service.